

**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**To:** [Range, Brent](#); [Jonathan Andrew](#); [Jess, Robert](#); [Reyes, Ernesto](#)  
**Subject:** FW: (b)(7)(E) - RVG-Borings (Levee North of Santa Ana Refuge)  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 11, 2017 12:58:24 PM

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All – I am forwarding the proposed schedule for geotech borings on the levee. Work is scheduled to start tomorrow morning.

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2017 7:45 AM  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) ; (b) (6)  
**Cc:** (b) (6);  
(b) (6); (b)(6);(b)(7)(C);  
(b) (6); (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Subject:** (b) (7)(E) - RVG-Borings

Hello,

The drillers are expected to deploy to the Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge levee on Wednesday, July 12<sup>th</sup>. Work is expected to commence as early as 6 AM. The drilling is expected to continue through Sunday, July 15<sup>th</sup>.

There will be two drill rigs entering the project area, to include the following vehicles:

White 2017 F-250, TX plate (b) (6)  
Grey 2001 International 8100 Tx plate (b) (6)  
Burgundy 2009 F-150 Supercrew  
White 2011 F-150 single cab.

Employees:

(b) (6)  
(b) (6)  
(b) (6)  
(b) (6)  
(b) (6)  
(b) (6)  
(b) (6)

Mr. (b) (6) will be the on- site POC . He can be contacted at (b) (6) .

A couple of questions:

- 1) Who will unlock the levee gates?
- 2) Is there a preferred route to enter and exit the project site?

Respectfully,

(b) (6)

(b) (6) | Homeland Security Projects Liaison | Michael Baker International  
Phoenix Plaza Tower II, 2929 N. Central Avenue, 8th Floor | Phoenix, AZ 85012 | | [M] (b) (6)  
(b) (6) | [www.mbakintl.com](http://www.mbakintl.com)



**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**To:** [Jess, Robert](#); [bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov); [Reyes, Ernesto](#)  
**Cc:** [Range, Brent](#); [amy\\_lueders@fws.gov](mailto:amy_lueders@fws.gov)  
**Subject:** Follow-up to CBP/FWS Meeting on September 12th at Santa Ana Refuge  
**Date:** Friday, September 22, 2017 11:44:49 PM

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Rob, Bryan, and Ernesto -

I wanted to thank you for your time last week to meet and discussed the proposed scope of environmental surveys. Based on our discussion, I want to clarify a few points regarding the border wall project at the Santa Ana Refuge. I hope the below information helps clarify the status of the border/levee wall system project, specifically on the Refuge.

1. **Border Wall Construction Funding** – This Fiscal Year (FY), CBP reprogrammed funding to conduct activities such as real estate acquisition research, environmental planning, and architectural/engineering support for new border/levee wall system construction requirements in the U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) Rio Grande Valley (RGV) Sector. Funding to construct border/levee wall system requirements are included in the President's proposed Fiscal Year 2018 budget. CBP is currently only funded to execute real estate, environmental assessment planning, and architectural/engineering design for these requirements.

(b) (5)

3. **Funding Availability for Environmental Mitigation** – At this time, CBP is only funded to conduct environmental planning for levee/border wall system requirements. The President's proposed FY18 budget includes funding to work with the Department of the Interior (DOI) to identify environmental impacts from the construction of levee/border wall systems and execute appropriate environmental mitigation. CBP will continue to coordinate with US Fish and Wildlife Services on each project to develop appropriate mitigation strategies that are based on measured environmental impacts and are an effective use of available funds.

I appreciate the continued dialogue. Please let me know if you have any questions or would like to discuss further.

Thank you,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Real Estate and Environmental Branch Chief  
Border Patrol & Air and Marine Program Management Office

24000 Avila Road, Suite 5020

Laguna Niguel, CA 92677

Phone: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Cell: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**To:** [Jonathan Andrew](#); [Mary Anderson](#)  
**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: press inquiry on environmental mitigation projects on the border, from EcoAmericas reporter  
**Date:** Monday, December 19, 2016 1:30:10 PM

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Thanks Jon and Mary. We will let you know if we need any detailed information

**From:** Andrew, Jonathan [mailto:[jonathan\\_andrew@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov)]

**Sent:** Monday, December 19, 2016 10:16 AM

**To:** Mary Anderson <[mary\\_anderson@fws.gov](mailto:mary_anderson@fws.gov)>

**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**Subject:** Re: press inquiry on environmental mitigation projects on the border, from EcoAmericas reporter

Thanks Mary - will defer to CBP on this - we may be past her deadline?

On Mon, Dec 19, 2016 at 1:07 PM, Mary Anderson <[mary\\_anderson@fws.gov](mailto:mary_anderson@fws.gov)> wrote:

Good morning Jon and (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) I can provide a written summary of the conservation actions and how much was spent on each action if you wish. I will be in the office today and tomorrow then off-line (traveling) until next Tue (Dec 27).

Please let me know if there is anything you need me to provide this reporter.

She did contact my office but I wanted to know what CBP and Jon wanted before contacting her directly. I would prefer to provide either Jon or CBP the information vice contacting her directly.

Mary Anderson  
Region 2 Ecological Services  
[Mary\\_anderson@fws.gov](mailto:Mary_anderson@fws.gov)  
505-248-6403  
500 Gold Ave,  
Albuquerque NM 87102

**From:** Andrew, Jonathan [mailto:[jonathan\\_andrew@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov)]

**Sent:** Monday, December 19, 2016 10:41 AM

**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C); Mary Anderson

**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**Subject:** Re: press inquiry on environmental mitigation projects on the border, from EcoAmericas reporter

This all looks pretty accurate - it was 17.8 million total and all of it has been spent. Looking at the emails we may be past here deadline for filing but Mary and I can help if there is something we can do.

On Mon, Dec 19, 2016 at 11:08 AM,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

wrote:

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C) – One question in regards to the statement,

(b) (5), (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

The best POC at DOI would be Jon Andrew ( [jonathan\\_andrew@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov) ). Do you want me to reach out to him?

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From: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Sent: Monday, December 19, 2016 7:18 AM

To: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) >

Cc: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**Subject:** FW: press inquiry on environmental mitigation projects on the border, from EcoAmericas reporter

**Importance:** High

Hi (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Please see a reporter's questions below re: our DOI ENV mitigation efforts and a proposed draft response below. Do you have a point of contact at DOI to direct the reporter to? (b) (5)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C) I've also copied (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) for visibility and feedback if needed.

Thanks,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

*I am a Mexico-based correspondent for the monthly environmental report EcoAmericas. I am working on a story on the environmental impact of the US-Mexico border wall. I would like to request information and/or an interview regarding the progress of CBP environmental mitigation projects along the border, as stipulated by the 2009 Memorandum of Agreement between the U.S. Department of the Interior and CBP and other agreements since 2006. I understand nearly \$90 million was set aside for environmental conservation projects in FYI 2007, 2008 and 2009, and I would like to know what projects have been carried out, in which areas, and how much the agency has spent on such efforts.*

**DRAFT RESPONSE:**

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

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**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, December 19, 2016 8:17 AM

**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**Subject:** FW: press inquiry on environmental mitigation projects on the border, from EcoAmericas reporter

Good Morning, Happy Holidays ladies.

We received the request below late Friday, the reporter gave us a very tight deadline and we asked for more time to work with this. Can you point me in the right direction?

Is this for us or USACE?

VR

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**From:** (b) (6)

**Sent:** Friday, December 16, 2016 12:27 PM

**To:** CBP Media Relations <[CBPMediaRelations@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:CBPMediaRelations@cbp.dhs.gov)>

**Subject:** Fwd: press inquiry on environmental mitigation projects on the border, from EcoAmericas reporter

Dear press officers,

I am a Mexico-based correspondent for the monthly environmental report EcoAmericas. I am working on a story on the environmental impact of the US-Mexico border wall. I would like to request information and/or an interview regarding the progress of CBP environmental mitigation projects along the border, as stipulated by the 2009 Memorandum of Agreement between the U.S. Department of the Interior and CBP and other agreements since 2006. I understand nearly \$90 million was set aside for environmental conservation projects in FYI 2007, 2008 and 2009, and I would like to know what projects have been carried out, in which areas, and how much the agency has spent on such efforts.

My deadline for the story is tonight, and unfortunately I sent a request to the wrong address 2 days ago. I would be very grateful if you could send any information on the projects and connect me to a knowledgeable official before that time. I can be reached at this email or on my Mexican cell phone: (b) (6).

Many thanks and regards,

(b) (6)

--

EcoAmericas  
Mexico City

From outside Mexico:

office: (b) (6)  
mobile: (b) (6)

En México

tel/fax o: (b) (6)  
cel: (b) (6)

--

Coordinadora de Proyectos  
Dirección General de Evaluación Institucional  
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México

From outside Mexico:

office: (b) (6)  
mobile: (b) (6)

En México

tel/fax o: (b) (6)  
cel: (b) (6)



--

Jon Andrew  
Interagency Borderlands Coordinator  
Office of the Secretary  
Department of the Interior

202-208-7431  
202-320-0718 (cell)

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Jon Andrew  
Interagency Borderlands Coordinator  
Office of the Secretary  
Department of the Interior

202-208-7431  
202-320-0718 (cell)

**From:** [Reyes, Ernesto](#)  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Cc:** [Winton, Bryan](#); [Scot Edler](#); (b)(6);(b)(7)(C); [Dawn Whitehead](#)  
**Subject:** Re: CBP Scope of Work for Biological and Cultural Surveys for your review  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 06, 2017 8:11:39 AM  
**Attachments:** [Botanist List.doc](#)

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(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Here is the botanist list that we use for South Texas.

Thanks,

Ernesto

Ernesto Reyes  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Alamo Ecological Service Sub-Office  
3325 Green Jay Rd  
Alamo, Texas 78516  
Tel:956-784-7560  
Fax:956-787-8338

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 4:33 PM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
<(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)> wrote:

Thanks Ernesto. A list would be appreciated. We plan to use one of the firms we regularly use for work in this region.

Look forward to seeing you next week.

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C), PMP, CEP  
Sr. Environmental Specialist

LMI Government Consulting  
Border Patrol & Air and Marine Program Management Office (BPAM PMO)  
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Washington, DC 20229

Mobile: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Mobile: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

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**From:** Reyes, Ernesto [mailto:[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 05, 2017 4:16 PM

**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) >

**Cc:** Winton, Bryan <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>; Scot Edler <[scot\\_edler@fws.gov](mailto:scot_edler@fws.gov)>; (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C); Dawn Whitehead <[dawn\\_gardiner@fws.gov](mailto:dawn_gardiner@fws.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: CBP Scope of Work for Biological and Cultural Surveys for your review

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Just a suggestion that the person doing the plant identification hopefully be someone with local plant expertise would be helpful especially if the time of season is not during the flowering season when plants are very difficult to identify. We can provide you with a list of botanists that know the local fauna if requested.

Ernesto

Ernesto Reyes

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Alamo Ecological Service Sub-Office

3325 Green Jay Rd

Alamo, Texas 78516

[Tel:956-784-7560](tel:956-784-7560)

Fax:956-787-8338

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 2:15 PM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

> wrote:

I'm coming in on Monday (not sure what time yet), will be at the meetings on Tuesday (Tuesday afternoon we will be at the Refuge based on the last agenda I saw), and then providing NEPA training to some agents on Wednesday (not sure what time yet, it's not my regular BMP training just some generic environmental training to get new team members aware of requirements), and then home on Thursday. (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) will be with me at the meeting on Tuesday.

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C), PMP, CEP  
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Mobile: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

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**From:** Winton, Bryan [mailto:[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 05, 2017 2:14 PM

**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) >

**Cc:** Ernesto Reyes <[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)>; Scot Edler <[scot\\_edler@fws.gov](mailto:scot_edler@fws.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: CBP Scope of Work for Biological and Cultural Surveys for your review

You are down next Tuesday or today? How many days will you be here for?

bryan

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 1:00 PM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

> wrote:

Bryan,

I have updated the SOW based on your emails regarding butterflies, birds, turtles, and snakes as well as the mapping of trees within the project area. The revised section is shown below. I'm sending this ahead for your review and look forward to any additional comments you may have on the scope of the baseline surveys.

See you Tuesday!!!

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

**(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)**, PMP, CEP  
Sr. Environmental Specialist

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(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

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**From:** Bryan Winton [mailto:[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Friday, September 01, 2017 11:37 PM

**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) >

**Subject:** Re: CBP Scope of Work for Biological and Cultural Surveys for your review

I would like for you to require the biological surveys perform dbh (diameter at breast height) on legacy size trees within the 75' swath where all vegetation will be removed for the enforcement zone. There are some 50-100 yr old mesquite trees that I am hoping to salvage for use in the visitor center remodeling. We have a staff member that can make furniture out of those and I'm hoping we can legally salvage those trees for repurposing and to tell the story in the future

Bryan

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 1, 2017, at 11:14 AM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

wrote:

Bryan,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C) and I will be attending the meeting in RGV on September 12. Could we tag up about this in the afternoon on the 12<sup>th</sup> at the Refuge?

Looking forward to seeing you. Have a great weekend.

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C), PMP, CEP  
Sr. Environmental Specialist

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(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

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**From:** Winton, Bryan [[mailto:bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 22, 2017 9:47 AM

**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) >

**Subject:** Re: CBP Scope of Work for Biological and Cultural Surveys for your review

I received some feedback from other staff about the biological and cultural resource surveys proposed. The biological surveys include primarily vegetation. Will the surveyors note birds or butterflies present in the survey area, so there is documentation of the number and type of species likely to be impacted from the project? Also, snakes and turtles may be encountered during the surveys. Reportedly, there are some butterfly species that are low-flying species, that could potentially be impacted by a 16' concrete wall with 12-18' bollards atop it. Ernesto Reyes is looking into which species this could impact.

Have you spoken to Rob Jess about these surveys? Will you wait to conduct these surveys til an



Environmental Waiver is signed or will you be contacting us to consider allowing these in the near future?

bryan

On Thu, Aug 10, 2017 at 9:35 AM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) > wrote:

Scot, and Bryan,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C) has asked me to draft an SOW for conducting the baseline cultural and biological surveys within the proposed project area of the levee wall within the Santa Anna Refuge. The project area will include the area starting at the river side of the levee wall and extending (b) (7)(E) horizontally towards the river. All of the area within this footprint will be included in the surveys. Our intent is to gather all baseline information regarding vegetation, habitat, cultural resources, and wetlands within that project area.

Can you please review the scope language below and let me know if there are any additional surveys or revisions we need to include in the scope? I didn't include the details for the wetlands and cultural surveys since these have standard scope language but I did include the biological survey language for your review. We want to make sure we develop the scope to include the types of surveys and information needed.

If you have any questions please contact me at any time.

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C), PMP, CEP  
Sr. Environmental Specialist

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--

Bryan R. Winton, Wildlife Refuge Manager

Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge

Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge

3325 Green Jay Road, Alamo, Texas 78516

(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell

[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)

--

Bryan R. Winton, Wildlife Refuge Manager

Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge

Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge

3325 Green Jay Road, Alamo, Texas 78516

(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell

[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)

## List of Botanists for plant surveys in South Texas

(b) (6)

Austin, Texas 78749

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Acme Botanical Services

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Austin, Texas 78731

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Blanton and Associates, Inc.

5 Lakeway Centre Court, Suite 200

Austin, Texas 78734

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Weslaco, TX 78596

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Rio Grande City, TX 78582

(b) (6)

**From:** [Winton, Bryan](#)  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C); [Rob Jess](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Possible Site Meeting at Santa Ana Refuge  
**Date:** Friday, June 30, 2017 3:39:47 PM

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We can handle 30 people, no problem.  
bryan

On Fri, Jun 30, 2017 at 2:29 PM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) > wrote:

Rob – We are set for our meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:30AM (invite sent). We will likely provide an agenda this afternoon. We will be including the US Army Corps of Engineers and the design contractor in the meeting. I believe (b)(6);(b)(7)(C), the Communications Director for RGV sector (copied here) had reached out to you regarding meeting space at the refuge and I wanted to confirm there is adequate space. We are still confirming the number of persons that will be attending from the CBP, USACE, and design contractor side but can you please let us know if there will be any issues with accommodating possibly up to 30 persons.

Thank you.

**From:** Jess, Robert [mailto:[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 6:28 AM  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) >  
**Cc:** Reyes, Ernesto <[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)>; Jonathan Andrew <[Jonathan\\_Andrew@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Jonathan_Andrew@ios.doi.gov)>; kelly mcdowell <[kelly\\_mcdowell@fws.gov](mailto:kelly_mcdowell@fws.gov)>; Dawn Whitehead <[dawn\\_gardiner@fws.gov](mailto:dawn_gardiner@fws.gov)>; Range, Brent <[brent\\_range@nps.gov](mailto:brent_range@nps.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Possible Site Meeting at Santa Ana Refuge

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

I'm available on July 6th...

rob

On Mon, Jun 19, 2017 at 11:59 PM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) > wrote:

Rob and Ernesto – We are now looking at a meeting date of July 6<sup>th</sup> at the refuge. The meeting would involve driving and walking the levee area adjacent to the refuge to identify areas that could affect design and receive your input and recommendations. Please let me know if you are available on July 6<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you,

(b)(6);(b)(7)

**From:** Reyes, Ernesto [mailto:[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Thursday, May 18, 2017 5:06 AM

**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**Cc:** Jess, Robert; Jonathan Andrew; kelly mcdowell; Dawn Whitehead

**Subject:** Re: Possible Site Meeting at Santa Ana Refuge

I'm available either day.

Ernesto

On Wed, May 17, 2017 at 5:53 PM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) > wrote:

Rob and Ernesto – We were hoping to have our design contractor on board this week so that we could proceed with this meeting and unfortunately there has been a delay. We are now looking at June 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup>. Would you both have availability on either of those dates?

Thank you.

**From:** Jess, Robert [mailto:[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 10, 2017 1:09 PM

**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) >

**Cc:** Reyes, Ernesto <[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)>; Jonathan Andrew <[Jonathan\\_Andrew@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Jonathan_Andrew@ios.doi.gov)>; kelly mcdowell <[kelly\\_mcdowell@fws.gov](mailto:kelly_mcdowell@fws.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Possible Site Meeting at Santa Ana Refuge

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

It looks like Ernesto and I are available to meet with you on Thursday, May 25th. We can meet here at Santa Ana and go from there? Let us know a time and we'll see you then.

rob

On Tue, May 9, 2017 at 3:28 PM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) > wrote:

Rob – Just circling back with you on the below email regarding your availability for a planning meeting on Thursday May 25<sup>th</sup>. Please let me know if you have availability.

Thank you,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**From:** Reyes, Ernesto [mailto:[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Friday, May 05, 2017 7:01 AM

**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) >

**Cc:** [robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov); Jonathan Andrew <[Jonathan\\_Andrew@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Jonathan_Andrew@ios.doi.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Possible Site Meeting at Santa Ana Refuge

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

It was good meeting you and placing a face with the name, and glad that you were able to attend the meeting. I am available on the 25th or any other day of that week for now. Rob is off today, but will be in on Monday to respond.

Ernesto

On Thu, May 4, 2017 at 6:22 PM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) > wrote:



Rob and Ernesto – Thank you for taking time to meet with us last week at the refuge, I appreciate you hosting us and all of the information and concerns each of you provided.

One of the action items from last week that we discussed was related to the possible need for a special use permit to conduct geotechnical testing along the levee. In discussions with our Chief Engineer ((b)(6);(b)(7)(C)), he indicates that we  
(b) (5)

I am hoping this is good news for you and I believe it would still be useful for us to drive/walk the levee adjacent to the refuge to identify any concerns/recommendations you have for planning and design purposes. I was looking at the potential for a site visit on May 25<sup>th</sup> with our design contractor. Would you be available for a meeting and site walk on this date?

Thank you,

((b)(6);(b)(7)(C))

Real Estate and Environmental Branch Chief

Border Patrol and Air & Marine

Program Management Office

24000 Avila Road, Suite 5020

Laguna Niguel, CA 92677

Phone: ((b)(6);(b)(7)(C))

Cell: ((b)(6);(b)(7)(C))

--

Ernesto Reyes

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Texas DOI State Border Coordinator

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Fax:956-787-8338

--

robert jess

project leader

south texas refuge complex

alamo, texas

--

Ernesto Reyes

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Texas DOI State Border Coordinator

Alamo Ecological Service Sub-Office

3325 Green Jay Rd

Alamo, Texas 78516

[Tel:956-784-7560](tel:956-784-7560)

Fax:956-787-8338

--

robert jess

project leader

south texas refuge complex

alamo, texas

--

Bryan R. Winton, Wildlife Refuge Manager  
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge  
Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge  
3325 Green Jay Road, Alamo, Texas 78516  
(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell  
[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)

**From:** [Scot Edler](#)  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C); (b) (6); (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: Telecom @ 1:00 today  
**Date:** Thursday, August 10, 2017 10:31:58 AM

---

10-4

Sent from My IPHONE

On Aug 10, 2017, at 9:28 AM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) >  
wrote:

Scot,

I believe that (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) is available as well as (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) so we'll wait for the call-in number from (b) (6) .

Respectfully,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
Operations Officer  
Technology & TACCOM  
Rio Grande Valley Sector  
OFFICE: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
CELL: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
<image001.gif>

---

**From:** Scot Edler [[mailto:scot\\_edler@fws.gov](mailto:scot_edler@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Thursday, August 10, 2017 9:25 AM

**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) >

**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b) (6)

**Subject:** Re: Telecom @ 1:00 today

If (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) is available I'll make it happen. I will need a call in number.

Sent from My IPHONE

On Aug 10, 2017, at 9:18 AM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) >  
wrote:

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)/Scot,

We would like to schedule a meeting between you and (b) (6) Project Manager (b) (6) who is overseeing the C2 project at (b) (7)(E) Will you two be available for a telecom @ 1:00 CST today?

Respectfully,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Operations Officer  
Technology & TACCOM  
Rio Grande Valley Sector  
OFFICE: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
CELL: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
<image001.gif>

**From:** [Gower, Patrick](#)  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Cc:** [Zoutendyk, David](#); [Goebel, Karen](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Upcoming border wall locations  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 24, 2017 12:30:20 PM

---

Thanks for the information. Can you provide a map of the locations and the anticipated schedule. This will help us to ensure that if further consultation is needed it can be done as efficiently as possible.

thx

*Patrick Gower*  
Fish and Wildlife Biologist  
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office  
(760) 431-9440 ext 352

On Tue, May 23, 2017 at 5:01 PM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) >  
wrote:

Hi Pat,

The plan is to build the border fence prototypes in an approximately 120' by 1,000' project area on the border in the alignment of the secondary border fence east of the Otay Mesa Port of Entry (POE). A number of different prototypes would be built between the current eastern terminus of the secondary border fence and the SDG&E pump station. The project area is on CBP owned land and has been completely previously disturbed as the result of construction, maintenance, and operation of the secondary and primary border fences and border roads. Mock ups of the prototypes would also be installed and tested on an asphalt parking lot at the fully developed San Diego Sector maintenance support facility on Pogo Row.

Resource surveys would be done out of an abundance of caution and we would consult and develop avoidance measures as necessary. Standard construction BMPs and storm water controls would be implemented to ensure construction activities wouldn't impact adjacent undisturbed areas or nearby sensitive resources. Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks.

Regards,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**From:** Gower, Patrick [mailto:[patrick\\_gower@fws.gov](mailto:patrick_gower@fws.gov)]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2017 1:30 PM

To: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) >

Cc: Zoutendyk, David <[david\\_zoutendyk@fws.gov](mailto:david_zoutendyk@fws.gov)>; Goebel, Karen <[karen\\_goebel@fws.gov](mailto:karen_goebel@fws.gov)>

Subject: Upcoming border wall locations

Has CBP determined where they intend on having the border fence mock ups placed? The attached article says Otay mesa on federal land. Much of the federal land on Otay has sensitive species on it so has CBP looked at what resources could be impacted by building of the prototypes and what measures may be needed to avoid these resources?

*Patrick Gower*

Fish and Wildlife Biologist

Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office

(760) 431-9440 ext 352

From: [Hendron, Jane](#)  
To: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
Cc: [Range, Brent](#); [Jonathan Andrew](#); (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
Subject: Re: NY Times Article re: Drilling  
Date: Friday, July 21, 2017 12:35:25 PM

---

thank you for sending this along (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Jane

Jane Hendron  
Public Affairs Division Chief  
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office  
2177 Salk Avenue, Suite 250  
Carlsbad, CA 92008  
Ph: 760-431-9440 ext. 205

On Wed, Jul 19, 2017 at 8:12 AM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C) > wrote:

Jon, Brent, & Jane –

We want to de-conflict the reporting in the NY Times article in the link below. CBP/USACE is NOT drilling/conducting Geotech work in San Diego for the 14 miles of pedestrian fence replacement. CBP's Office of Public Affairs is reaching out to the reporter to clarify. We also want to convey this message to the FWS/BLM staff that (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) and (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) met with.

Please let us know if you have any questions or if we need to discuss further.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/07/18/us/politics/border-wall-construction.html>

Thanks,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C), BPAM PMO Communications

Kearns & West supporting



OFAM/FM&E/BPAM

BB: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) or C: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

“...information sharing is caring....”

**From:** [Maestas, Aislinn](#)  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: External Stakeholder Public & Congressional Affairs Coordination  
**Date:** Thursday, June 15, 2017 3:26:49 PM

---

Appreciate the information. The request came into our CLA office out of headquarters. I will get you more information on the specifics of the ask.

Thanks,  
- A

On Wed, Jun 14, 2017 at 8:49 PM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) <(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)> wrote:

Hi Aislinn –

On 6/9 CBP distributed a Congressional Notification to Appropriations staff for an A/E contract for wall design for the (b) (7)(E) in the Rio Grande Valley Sector. Just a note, CBP is not funded for wall construction, we are only authorized to move forward with design for (b) (7)(E) on IBWC and USFWS property. We are meeting with IBWC and USFWS at the end of the month to continue design coordination.

Was the Representative's inquiry specific to how CBP projects impact wildlife along the TX Border? We will also reach out to our Office of Congressional Affairs to confirm CBP briefs to the Hill on 6/9.

Thanks,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**From:** Maestas, Aislinn [mailto:[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 14, 2017 12:02 PM  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) >  
**Subject:** Re: External Stakeholder Public & Congressional Affairs Coordination

Good morning (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Do you know which Congressionals were briefed on 6/9? We have received a request from

Rep. John Carter on wildlife impacts along the TX border. Was Rep. Carter one of the Congressmen briefed on 6/9? It would be helpful to have a little more info on the briefings that I can share with our Congressional liason so we are all on the same page.

Thank you,

- Aislinn

On Tue, Jun 13, 2017 at 11:49 AM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) <(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)> wrote:

Good afternoon –

Please find an agenda and an example Public Affairs Guidance document from USACE.

We looking forward to discussing further soon.

Thanks,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2017 4:24 PM

**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) 'Swift, Heather'; 'Virginia Johnson'; 'Maureen Foster'; 'Harry Humbert'; 'Laura Rigas'; 'Pamela Barkin'; 'Micah Chambers'; 'Casey Hammond'; 'Joy Nicholopoulos'; (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) (b) (6)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b) (6) 'Maestas, Aislinn';  
Brent Range; 'Andrew, Jonathan'; (b) (6) (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**Subject:** External Stakeholder Public & Congressional Affairs Coordination

**When:** Tuesday, June 13, 2017 2:00 PM-2:30 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

**Where:** (b) (7)(E)

**Importance:** High

An agenda, updated POC list and sample public affairs guidance are forthcoming. Please let us know if there are other external, public, and/or Congressional affairs POCs that should be included.

--

**Aislinn Maestas**

Public Affairs Specialist

External Affairs

Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service

Phone: 505-248-6599

[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

--

**Aislinn Maestas**

Public Affairs Specialist

External Affairs

Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service

Phone: 505-248-6599

[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

**From:** [Maestas, Aislinn](#)  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C); [Brent Range](#); [Andy Devolder](#); [Jonathan Andrew](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Notes from last week  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 18, 2017 2:52:00 PM

---

Good afternoon,

We made some tweaks and ran the new statement up the chain. It looks like the Service and DOI Office of Comms are good to go on this version:

*The Department of the Interior (DOI) is one of several federal agencies that U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has engaged with to implement the President's Executive Order (EO) 13767 - Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Improvements. CBP has included DOI in initial discussions regarding the implementation of the EO in south Texas. For inquiries, please contact U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Office of Public Affairs at [cbpmediarelations@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:cbpmediarelations@cbp.dhs.gov)*

Appreciate the help.

- Aislinn

On Tue, Jul 18, 2017 at 10:43 AM (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
<(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)> wrote:

Aislinn –

Additional POCs for RGV Public Affairs Officers below.

Thanks,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

### **Inquiries**

*For questions related to the wall project, please contact U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) Office of Public Affairs at [cbpmediarelations@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:cbpmediarelations@cbp.dhs.gov) or U.S. Border Patrol's Rio Grande Valley (RGV) Public Affairs Officer Supervisor (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) or CBP Office of Public Affairs Officer (b)(6);(b)(7)(C).*

---

**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2017 11:51 AM  
**To:** 'Maestas, Aislinn' <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>

**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Notes from last week

**Importance:** High

Hi Aislinn –

Thank you for your time yesterday. Per our discussion, please let me know if the below statement works for now FWS' responses to media inquiries. I am sure we'll be coordinating on additional messaging soon.

Thanks,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**PROPOSED USFWS RESPONSE:**

(b) (5)

**From:** Maestas, Aislinn [[mailto:aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Monday, July 17, 2017 11:39 AM

**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) >

**Subject:** Notes from last week

Good morning (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

I was on work travel in Denver last week and unable to make the coordination call. I am wondering if you have notes to share from the call so I can get up to speed on the latest

information that has been shared, particularly as it relates to the TX project.

Thank you,

- Aislinn

--

**Aislinn Maestas**

Public Affairs Specialist

External Affairs

Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service

Phone: 505-248-6599

[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

--

**Aislinn Maestas**

Public Affairs Specialist

External Affairs

Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service

Phone: 505-248-6599

[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

**From:** [Stewart, Mendel](#)  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Cc:** [Gower, Patrick](#); (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) [Zoutendyk, David](#); [Goebel, Karen](#); [Brent Range](#); [Jonathan Andrew](#); [Sobiech, Scott](#); [Joanna Gilkeson](#); [Jane Hendron](#); [Andy Yuen](#)  
**Subject:** Re: CBP/FWS Coordination Meeting in Imperial Beach July 13th  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 11, 2017 3:12:55 PM

---

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

The folks coming with me are David Zoutendyk, Patrick Gower and Joanna Gilkeson.

<Mendel

On Tue, Jul 11, 2017 at 11:41 AM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) wrote:  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Hi Mendel,

We should be able to accommodate three additional participants. Can you please provide their names?

I will not be attending this meeting in person, but can join via conference call after the site visit to discuss Public Affairs coordination. For your awareness, we have a standing weekly External Outreach coordination call every Tuesday at 2pm EST/11am PT. The agenda includes project updates for our FY17 fence replacement projects and other program updates related to levee and border wall activities. The goal of this meeting is to coordinate stakeholder and outreach engagement activities such as working with our respective public affairs offices to develop public affairs guidance.

I'd like to extend the meeting invitation to the appropriate FWS points of contact.

I'm available to discuss further if needed.

Thank you,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**From:** Stewart, Mendel [mailto:[mendel\\_stewart@fws.gov](mailto:mendel_stewart@fws.gov)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2017 12:59 PM



To: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
Cc: Gower, Patrick <[patrick\\_gower@fws.gov](mailto:patrick_gower@fws.gov)>; (b)(6);(b)(7)(C);  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C); Zoutendyk, David <[david\\_zoutendyk@fws.gov](mailto:david_zoutendyk@fws.gov)>; Goebel, Karen  
<[karen\\_goebel@fws.gov](mailto:karen_goebel@fws.gov)>; Brent Range <[brent\\_range@ios.doi.gov](mailto:brent_range@ios.doi.gov)>; Jonathan Andrew  
<[Jonathan\\_Andrew@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Jonathan_Andrew@ios.doi.gov)>; Sobiech, Scott <[scott\\_sobiech@fws.gov](mailto:scott_sobiech@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: CBP/FWS Coordination Meeting in Imperial Beach July 13th

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Thank you for reaching out to us. I plan to attend on 13th and would like to bring 3 others with me. This includes our Division Chief for the area, the biologist who will likely be working directly with you and a person representing public affairs since this effort will likely generate public interest.

Can you support 4 of us?

<Mendel

On Tue, Jul 11, 2017 at 8:04 AM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C) > wrote:

Good morning Patrick –

I support the BPAM PMO, we are developing an agenda and will have background materials available at the meeting. CBP's intent is to provide FWS with an overview of the CBP's FY17 projects and discuss the San Diego's activities in more detail. The visit will begin with a site visit of the project area and then a brief presentation after at the (b) (7)(E). We should have room for a few more participants. We can also host a conference line.

Thanks,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**From:** Gower, Patrick [mailto:[patrick\\_gower@fws.gov](mailto:patrick_gower@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Monday, July 10, 2017 6:12 PM

**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C) >; Zoutendyk, David <[david\\_zoutendyk@fws.gov](mailto:david_zoutendyk@fws.gov)>; Mendel Stewart <[mendel\\_stewart@fws.gov](mailto:mendel_stewart@fws.gov)>; Goebel, Karen <[karen\\_goebel@fws.gov](mailto:karen_goebel@fws.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: CBP/FWS Coordination Meeting in Imperial Beach July 13th

Can you please provide some of the specifics of the meeting such as where are we meeting, what specifically will we discuss and will we be conducting a site visit. Please forward any background information if you have any. We have a few of people who would like to attend; how much room do we have?

thanks

*Patrick Gower*

Fish and Wildlife Biologist

Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office

(760) 431-9440 ext 352

On Fri, Jul 7, 2017 at 2:21 PM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) > wrote:

Patrick – CBP is planning for a coordination meeting related to a fence replacement project in San Diego on July 13<sup>th</sup>. We are attempting to reach out to the appropriate persons from Fish and Wildlife to invite them to the meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to inform FWS of the project and begin our environmental planning process. We have reached out to Mendel Stewart but wanted to also check with you as to whether you or someone else from your office would be available to participate. Please let us know if we should reach out to anyone else in Carlsbad.

Thank you,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Real Estate and Environmental Branch Chief

Border Patrol and Air & Marine

Program Management Office

24000 Avila Road, Suite 5020

Laguna Niguel, CA 92677

Phone: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Cell (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(This message is for the designated recipient only and may contain privileged, proprietary, or otherwise private information. If you have received it in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete the original. Any other use of the email by you is prohibited.)

--

Mendel Stewart

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office

Field Supervisor

2177 Salk Avenue, Suite 250

Carlsbad, CA 92008

760-431-9440 x211 office

(b) (6) mobile

[mendel\\_stewart@fws.gov](mailto:mendel_stewart@fws.gov)

<http://www.fws.gov/carlsbad/>

Region 8 Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/usfwspacificsouthwest>

Region 8 Twitter page: <https://twitter.com/USFWSPacSWest>

--

Mendel Stewart  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office  
Field Supervisor  
2177 Salk Avenue, Suite 250  
Carlsbad, CA 92008  
760-431-9440 x211 office  
(b) (6) mobile  
[mendel\\_stewart@fws.gov](mailto:mendel_stewart@fws.gov)  
<http://www.fws.gov/carlsbad/>

Region 8 Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/usfwspacificsouthwest>

Region 8 Twitter page: <https://twitter.com/USFWSPacSWest>

**From:** [Maestas, Aislinn](#)  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: Notes from last week  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 18, 2017 12:57:58 PM

---

Thank you (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) We will review the statement and coordinate with DOI on getting a draft approved. Will also share these contacts as appropriate.

Thanks,  
- Aislinn

On Tue, Jul 18, 2017 at 10:43 AM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
<(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)> wrote:

Aislinn –

Additional POCs for RGV Public Affairs Officers below.

Thanks,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**Inquiries**

*For questions related to the wall project, please contact U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) Office of Public Affairs at [cbpmediarelations@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:cbpmediarelations@cbp.dhs.gov) or U.S. Border Patrol's Rio Grande Valley (RGV) Public Affairs Officer Supervisor (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) or CBP Office of Public Affairs Officer (b)(6);(b)(7)(C).*

---

**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2017 11:51 AM  
**To:** 'Maestas, Aislinn' <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Notes from last week  
**Importance:** High

Hi Aislinn –

Thank you for your time yesterday. Per our discussion, please let me know if the below statement works for now FWS' responses to media inquiries. I am sure we'll be coordinating on additional messaging soon.

Thanks,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**PROPOSED USFWS RESPONSE:**

(b) (5)

**From:** Maestas, Aislinn [[mailto:aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Monday, July 17, 2017 11:39 AM

**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**Subject:** Notes from last week

Good morning (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

I was on work travel in Denver last week and unable to make the coordination call. I am wondering if you have notes to share from the call so I can get up to speed on the latest information that has been shared, particularly as it relates to the TX project.

Thank you,

- Aislinn

--

**Aislinn Maestas**

Public Affairs Specialist

External Affairs

Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service

Phone: 505-248-6599

[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

--

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[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

**From:** [Reyes, Ernesto](#)  
**To:** [Winton, Bryan](#)  
**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C); [Rob Jess](#); [Scot Edler](#); (b)(6);(b)(7)(C); [Dawn Whitehead](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Border Wall Levee Ramps  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 12, 2017 9:19:06 AM

---

It's an excellent option to consider. In case of a flood like we had in 2010, the gates should be open to let wildlife escape to the north side of the levee.

Ernesto

On Mon, Jul 10, 2017 at 3:47 PM, Winton, Bryan <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)> wrote:

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

During the site visit on Santa Ana (IBWC Levee) on July 6, it was brought up about additional border wall impacts resulting from future flooding, in the event the remaining Hidalgo County levee receives Border Wall construction. Since border wall would be on the south side of the IBWC levee, during any future flooding events, terrestrial animals would have no high ground to flee to during flood, except for the levee ramps. Attached are 3 levee ramp photos, taken from the south viewing north, from existing border wall segments on the Abrams Tract, La Parida Banco Tract, and Madero Tract (all 3 LRGV NWR tracts in Hidalgo county).

Upon viewing the attached photos, our request would be to considerably expand the footprint of the vehicle ramp which would afford terrestrial wildlife more space to flee to in the event of a future flood. Given a future flood, no vehicles would be accessing across the border wall since the area would be under water. Therefore, the ramps will be the only refugia wildlife has in the event of future floods. The alternative is wildlife dies and washes downstream. We can discuss this further at your convenience.

Sincerely,

--

Bryan R. Winton, Wildlife Refuge Manager  
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge  
Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge  
3325 Green Jay Road, Alamo, Texas 78516  
(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell  
[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)

--

Ernesto Reyes  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Texas DOI State Border Coordinator  
Alamo Ecological Service Sub-Office  
3325 Green Jay Rd  
Alamo, Texas 78516  
Tel:956-784-7560  
Fax:956-787-8338



From: [Jess, Robert](#)  
To: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C); [Bryan Winton](#)  
Cc: [Wagner, Derick](#); (b)(6);(b)(7)(C); (b) (6)  
Subject: Re: (b) (7)(E) RFI  
Date: Monday, September 25, 2017 8:09:19 AM

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

I'll forward to Bryan Winton, the refuge manager for the areas in question to assess. We'll get back to you all shortly. Also in regard to the proposed fence location at Santa Ana Refuge, we are interested in design work similar to what has been done at Southmost College (not sure if its still named that?) where its not this brown structure but has been instead "beautified" to better blend in with the surroundings of the college?

Thanks,  
robert

On Fri, Sep 22, 2017 at 8:27 AM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) > wrote:

Mr. Jess,

We are working on the designs for the levee wall and have a few questions about the existing culverts and standpipes that would be impacted by the proposed construction. If you and your team would please review and provide answers to the attached it would be greatly appreciated.

V/r,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C), P.E. LEED AP BD+C

Program Manager

Border Patrol & Air and Marine Program Management Office (BPAM PMO)

Facilities Management & Engineering

Mobile: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

--

robert jess  
project leader

south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

From: [Winton, Bryan](#)  
To: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
Cc: [Rob Jess](#); [Ernesto Reyes](#); [Kelly McDowell](#)  
Subject: Re: Border Wall Levee Ramps  
Date: Friday, July 14, 2017 11:09:33 AM

---

So we are on for a meeting with you and CBP for July 25, 1pm at Santa Ana!

See you then.

bryan

On Fri, Jul 14, 2017 at 9:42 AM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) >  
wrote:

At the refuge - we will be joined by a SME from DHS that oversees a (b) (7)(E)  
(b) (7)(E) . (b) (7)(E), (b) (5)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C), PE  
LMI  
BPAM Chief Engineer  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
Sent from Samsung Galaxy

---

From: Winton, Bryan  
Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2017 1:57:27 PM  
To: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
Subject: Re: Border Wall Levee Ramps

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C), with RGV Sector CBP left a message that the meeting would be 1pm on July 25? Where is the meeting proposed to be held?

bryan

On Wed, Jul 12, 2017 at 9:09 AM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) <  
mailto:(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)>> wrote:  
Thanks Bryan

I will share with the Corps and border patrol. As a heads up, we are tentatively planning to review the 15% design in McAllen on July 25th and will want to meet with you and your team if possible. We are still working on the logistics - more to come.

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C), PE  
LMI  
BPAM Chief Engineer  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
Sent from Samsung Galaxy

---

From: Winton, Bryan

Sent: Monday, July 10, 2017 4:47:31 PM

To: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Cc: Rob Jess; Ernesto Reyes; Scot Edler

Subject: Border Wall Levee Ramps

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

During the site visit on Santa Ana (IBWC Levee) on July 6, it was brought up about additional border wall impacts resulting from future flooding, in the event the remaining Hidalgo County levee receives Border Wall construction. Since border wall would be on the south side of the IBWC levee, during any future flooding events, terrestrial animals would have no high ground to flee to during flood, except for the levee ramps. Attached are 3 levee ramp photos, taken from the south viewing north, from existing border wall segments on the Abrams Tract, La Parida Banco Tract, and Madero Tract (all 3 LRGV NWR tracts in Hidalgo county).

Upon viewing the attached photos, our request would be to considerably expand the footprint of the vehicle ramp which would afford terrestrial wildlife more space to flee to in the event of a future flood. Given a future flood, no vehicles would be accessing across the border wall since the area would be under water. Therefore, the ramps will be the only refugia wildlife has in the event of future floods. The alternative is wildlife dies and washes downstream. We can discuss this further at your convenience.

Sincerely,

--

Bryan R. Winton, Wildlife Refuge Manager  
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge  
Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge  
3325 Green Jay Road, Alamo, Texas 78516  
(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell  
[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)<mailto:[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)><mailto:[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>>

--

Bryan R. Winton, Wildlife Refuge Manager  
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge  
Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge  
3325 Green Jay Road, Alamo, Texas 78516  
(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell  
[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)<mailto:[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>

--

Bryan R. Winton, Wildlife Refuge Manager  
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge  
Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge

3325 Green Jay Road, Alamo, Texas 78516  
(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell  
[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)

**From:** [Winton, Bryan](#)  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Cc:** [Rob Jess](#); [Ernesto Reyes](#)  
**Subject:** Fill Material  
**Date:** Thursday, July 27, 2017 4:54:21 PM

---

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

We are very appreciative of your support (advocation) for moving the levee inward toward the levee and away from the habitat, so there will be an opportunity to reduce the actual habitat loss hopefully once the details of the project and particularly the width of the Enforcement Zone is finalized and determined.

I wanted to provide additional comment on one item. As you move the border wall in toward the levee, nearer to the middle of what is now the existing road, you gain a maximum amount of fill material that can be used for enlargement of the ramps, and/or building up the base of the wall so there is a level enforcement zone. On Santa Ana NWR, between the entrance and exit roads (black-top paved roads), where we have advocated that the (b) (7)(E) there is a considerable stretch that intermittently serves as wetland (during flooding). This area has a ditch on the inside as well and I'm bringing this to your attention because this area is significantly lower than most of the property south of the levee. Therefore, I think that it will be necessary to import fill material to level/flatten the Enforcement Zone regardless of how wide it is and where the levee wall is built within the existing levee. I can send you some photos to try and better depict this particular area if you like. Just let me know.

I heard you mention that you want to avoid importing soil and I'm alerting you that it may not be possible to avoid, depending on the width of the enforcement zone, how far into the levee the wall is built, and how level you require the enforcement zone to be.

Sincerely,

--

Bryan R. Winton, Wildlife Refuge Manager  
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge  
Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge  
3325 Green Jay Road, Alamo, Texas 78516  
(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell  
[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)

**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**To:** [Jonathan Andrew](#); [Mary Anderson](#)  
**Subject:** RE: FW: Phone message  
**Date:** Monday, December 19, 2016 2:42:58 PM

---

Ok with me too. If you plan to send out any documents, please run them by us first. Thanks.

Congratulations on the new job!

Regards,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Environmental Protection Specialist  
Real Estate, Environmental, and Leasing Division  
Border Patrol and Air and Marine Program Management Office  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Office: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
Mobile: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**From:** Andrew, Jonathan [mailto:[jonathan\\_andrew@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov)]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 19, 2016 9:34 AM  
**To:** Mary Anderson <[mary\\_anderson@fws.gov](mailto:mary_anderson@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: FW: Phone message

OK with me and congrats on the job! CBP should have a say in this as well if they are interested.

Be sure to send me your new email address.

On Mon, Dec 19, 2016 at 12:20 PM, Mary Anderson <[mary\\_anderson@fws.gov](mailto:mary_anderson@fws.gov)> wrote:

Gentlemen, would you like me to contact this report and provide responses???

Also, (b) (6)

I will be available via e-mail until Jan 12th. So if you have any questions, now is the time to ask them.

Mary Anderson  
Region 2 Ecological Services  
[Mary\\_anderson@fws.gov](mailto:Mary_anderson@fws.gov)

505-248-6403  
500 Gold Ave,  
Albuquerque NM 87102

-----Original Message-----

From: Porter, Michael [mailto:[michael\\_porter@fws.gov](mailto:michael_porter@fws.gov)]

Sent: Friday, December 16, 2016 10:42 AM

To: Mary Anderson

Subject: Phone message

Ma'am, I received a call yesterday from (b) (6). She claimed to be a reported from "Ecoamerica".

She said a bunch of money was earmarked in the border wall project to mitigate for animal migration and wants to talk to someone.

Her email is (b) (6). She said she is in Mexico City, so to call her, she said to dial (b) (6).

Thanks!

Michael Porter  
Executive Assistant  
Ecological Services  
Region 2  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
[michael\\_porter@fws.gov](mailto:michael_porter@fws.gov)  
505-248-6644

--

Jon Andrew  
Interagency Borderlands Coordinator  
Office of the Secretary  
Department of the Interior

202-208-7431  
202-320-0718 (cell)



**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**To:** [Patrick\\_Gower@fws.gov](mailto:Patrick_Gower@fws.gov)  
**Cc:** [Zoutendyk\\_David](#); [Goebel\\_Karen](#); (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: Upcoming border wall locations  
**Date:** Thursday, June 01, 2017 5:46:22 PM

---

Hi Pat,

This information is For Official Use Only and I ask that you keep the information internal until we have developed our planning document.

Here is an aerial showing the proposed project locations.



Here is an aerial showing the prototype construction area on Otay Mesa in greater detail.



The construction of the prototypes is currently scheduled to occur in September with the testing of the mockups happening at the same time or shortly after in October.

Regards,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**From:** Gower, Patrick [[mailto:patrick\\_gower@fws.gov](mailto:patrick_gower@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 24, 2017 9:30 AM

To: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
Cc: Zoutendyk, David <david\_zoutendyk@fws.gov>; Goebel, Karen <karen\_goebel@fws.gov>  
Subject: Re: Upcoming border wall locations

Thanks for the information. Can you provide a map of the locations and the anticipated schedule. This will help us to ensure that if further consultation is needed it can be done as efficiently as possible.  
thx

**Patrick Gower**

Fish and Wildlife Biologist  
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office  
(760) 431-9440 ext 352

On Tue, May 23, 2017 at 5:01 PM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) > wrote:

Hi Pat,

The plan is to build the border fence prototypes in an approximately 120' by 1,000' project area on the border in the alignment of the secondary border fence east of the Otay Mesa Port of Entry (POE). A number of different prototypes would be built between the current eastern terminus of the secondary border fence and the SDG&E pump station. The project area is on CBP owned land and has been completely previously disturbed as the result of construction, maintenance, and operation of the secondary and primary border fences and border roads. Mock ups of the prototypes would also be installed and tested on an asphalt parking lot at the fully developed San Diego Sector maintenance support facility on Pogo Row.

Resource surveys would be done out of an abundance of caution and we would consult and develop avoidance measures as necessary. Standard construction BMPs and storm water controls would be implemented to ensure construction activities wouldn't impact adjacent undisturbed areas or nearby sensitive resources. Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks.

Regards,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

From: Gower, Patrick [mailto:patrick\_gower@fws.gov]  
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2017 1:30 PM  
To: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) >  
Cc: Zoutendyk, David <david\_zoutendyk@fws.gov>; Goebel, Karen <karen\_goebel@fws.gov>  
Subject: Upcoming border wall locations

Has CBP determined where they intend on having the border fence mock ups placed? The attached article says Otay mesa on federal land. Much of the federal land on Otay has sensitive species on it so has CBP looked at what resources could be impacted by building of the prototypes and what measures may be needed to avoid these resources?

**Patrick Gower**

Fish and Wildlife Biologist  
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office  
(760) 431-9440 ext 352

**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**To:** [Gower, Patrick](#)  
**Cc:** [Zoutendyk, David](#); [Goebel, Karen](#); [Dobson, Cheryll](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Sensitive Species Survey results for the Border Wall Prototype Construction  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 27, 2017 6:24:40 PM  
**Attachments:** [SDC RPT Border Wall Prototype Biological Resources Letter DRAFT.pdf](#)

---

Hi Pat,

Attached is the draft survey letter report. There will be a final report with some minor administrative changes and additional species background information. Please do not share the report with anyone outside Fish and Wildlife Service. Thank you.

Regards,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Environmental Protection Specialist  
Real Estate, Environmental, and Leasing Division  
Border Patrol and Air and Marine Program Management Office  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Office: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
Mobile: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**From:** Gower, Patrick [mailto:patrick\_gower@fws.gov]

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 27, 2017 7:25 AM

**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) >

**Cc:** Zoutendyk, David <david\_zoutendyk@fws.gov>; Goebel, Karen <karen\_goebel@fws.gov>; Dobson, Cheryll <cheryll.dobson@sol.doi.gov>

**Subject:** Sensitive Species Survey results for the Border Wall Prototype Construction

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Please forward as soon as you can the survey reports completed by GSRC and referenced in your September 25, 2017 *Memorandum Construction and Evaluation of Border Wall Prototypes, U.S. Border Patrol, San Diego Sector, California*

*Patrick Gower*

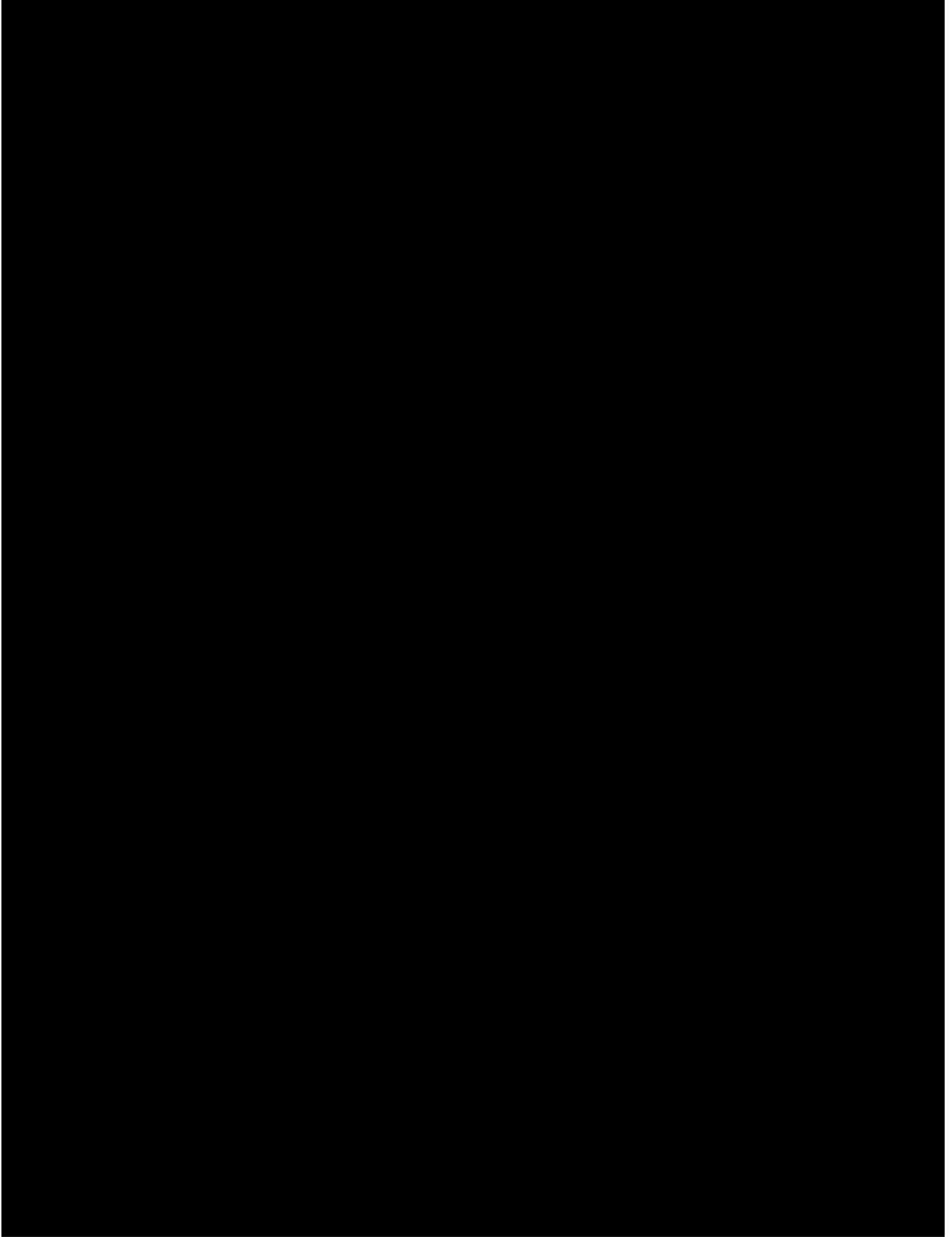
Fish and Wildlife Biologist  
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office  
(760) 431-9440 ext 352



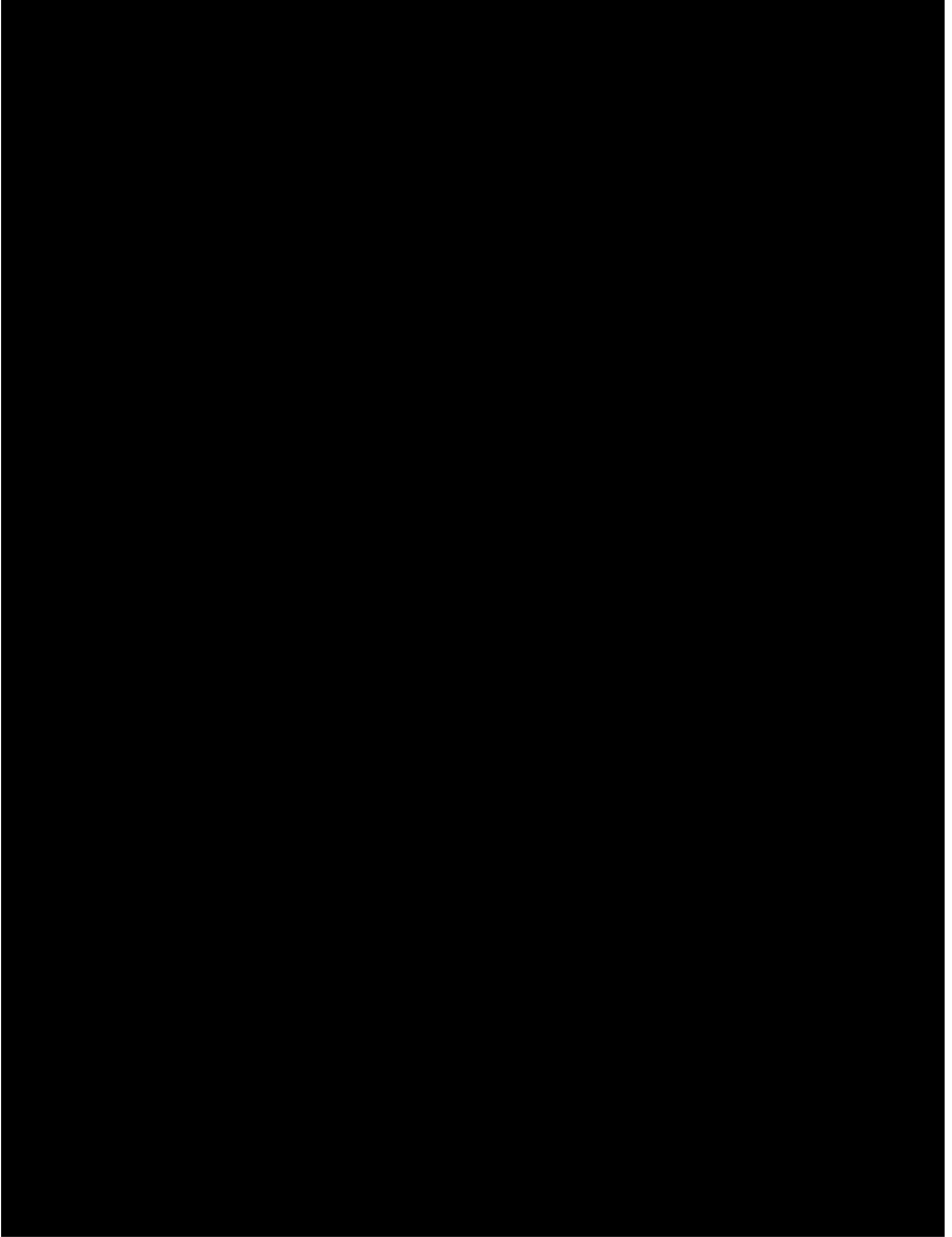
(b) (5), (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(E)

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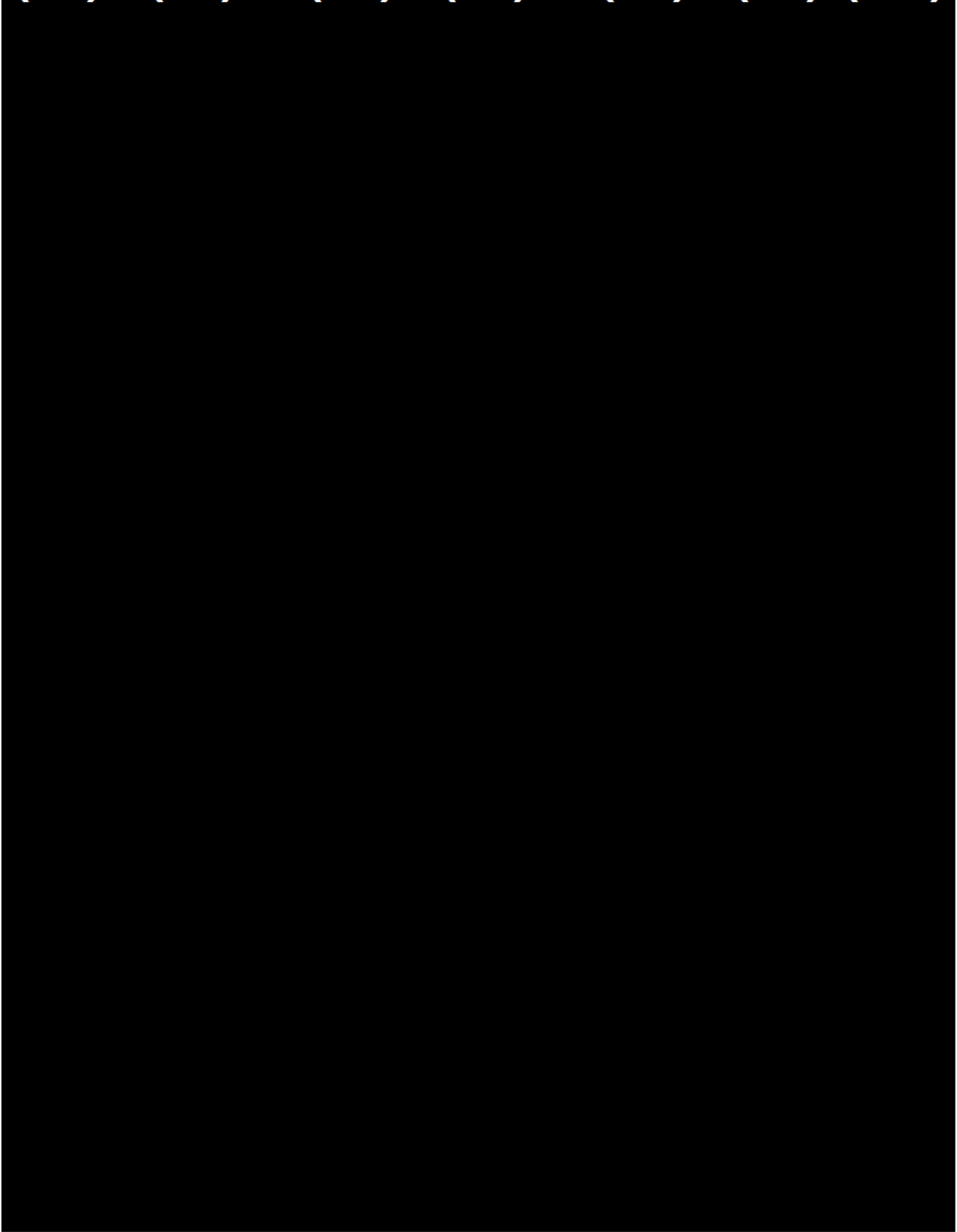
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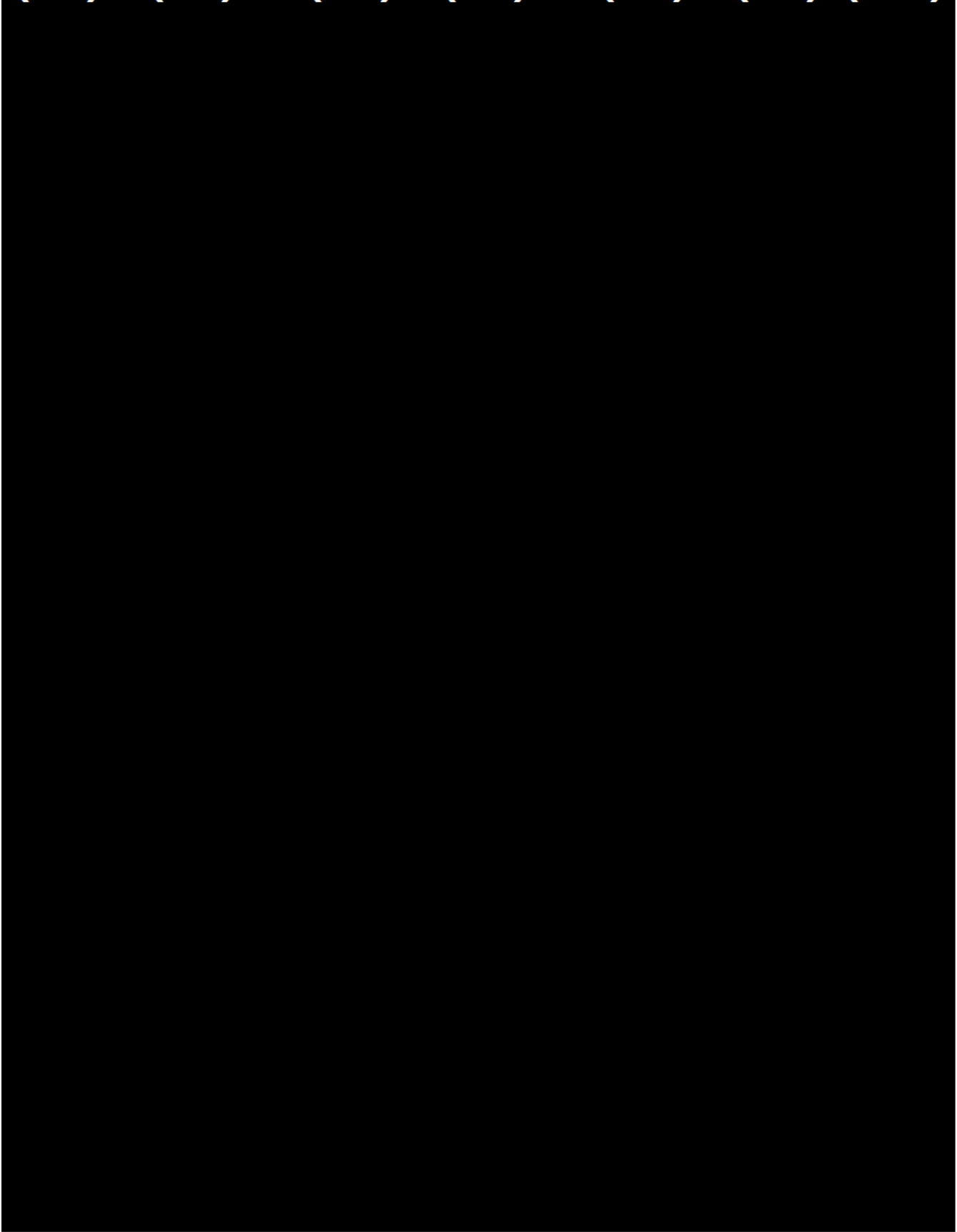
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(b) (5), (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

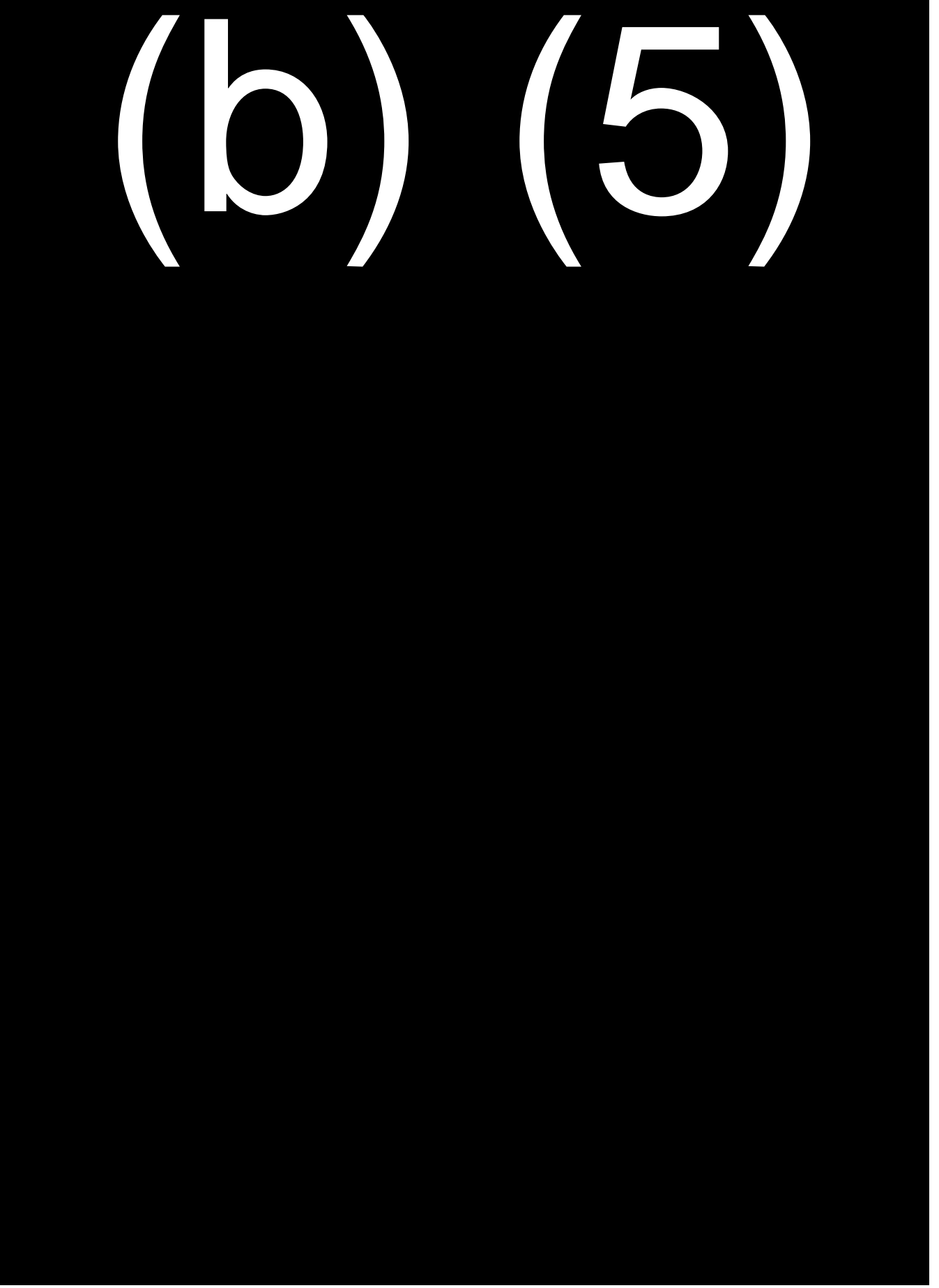


(b) (5), (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)





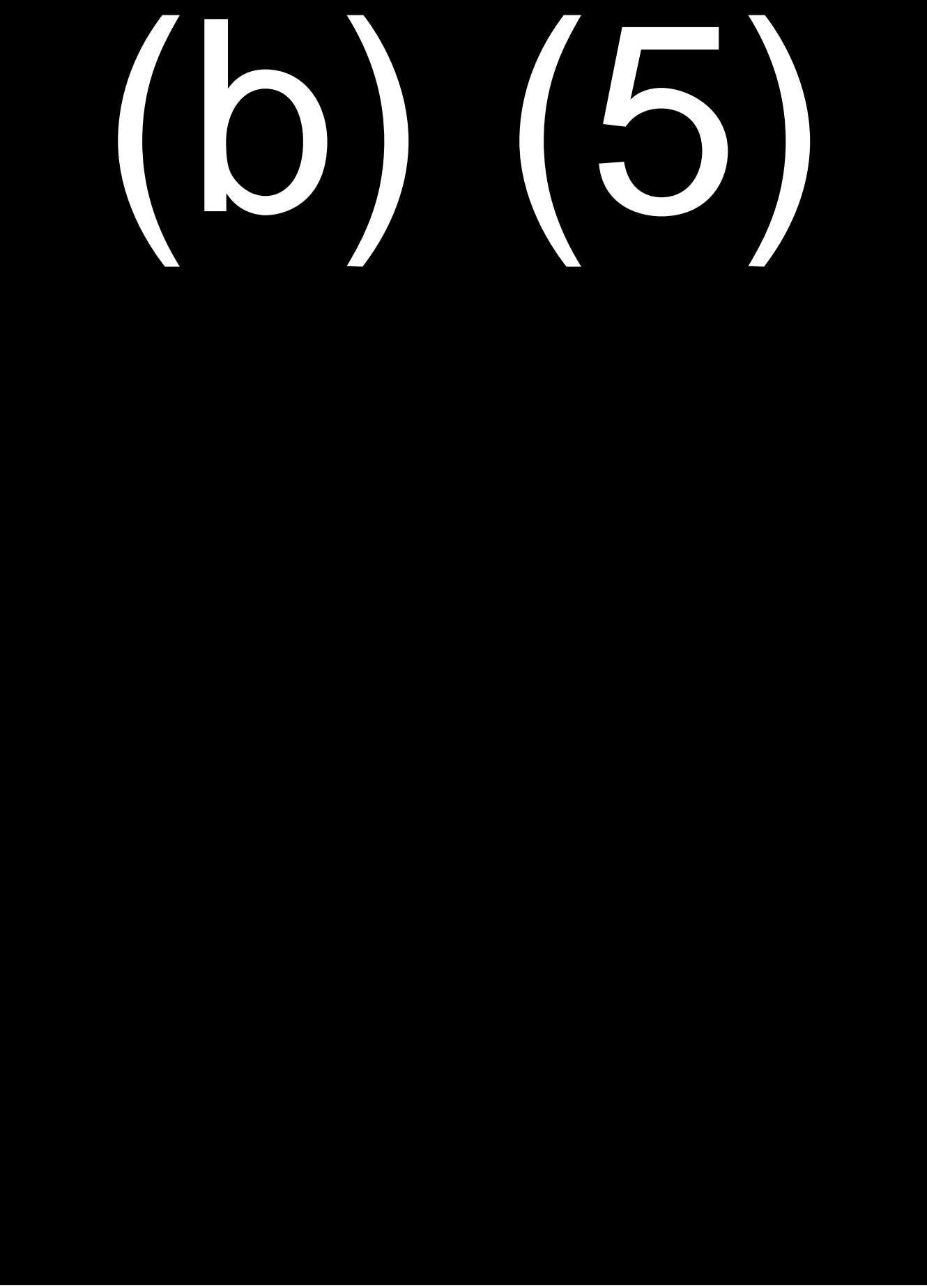
(b) (5)







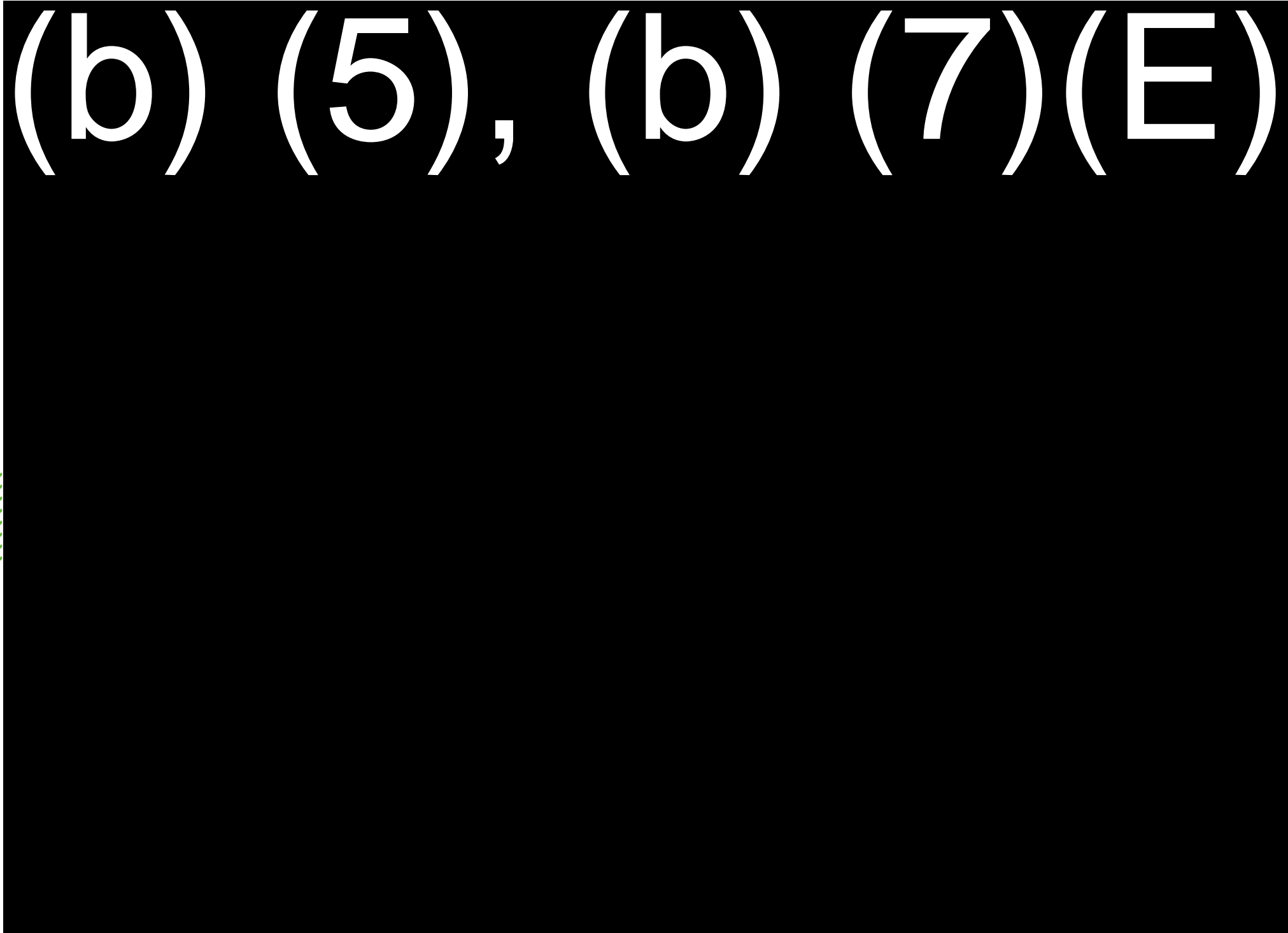
(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)





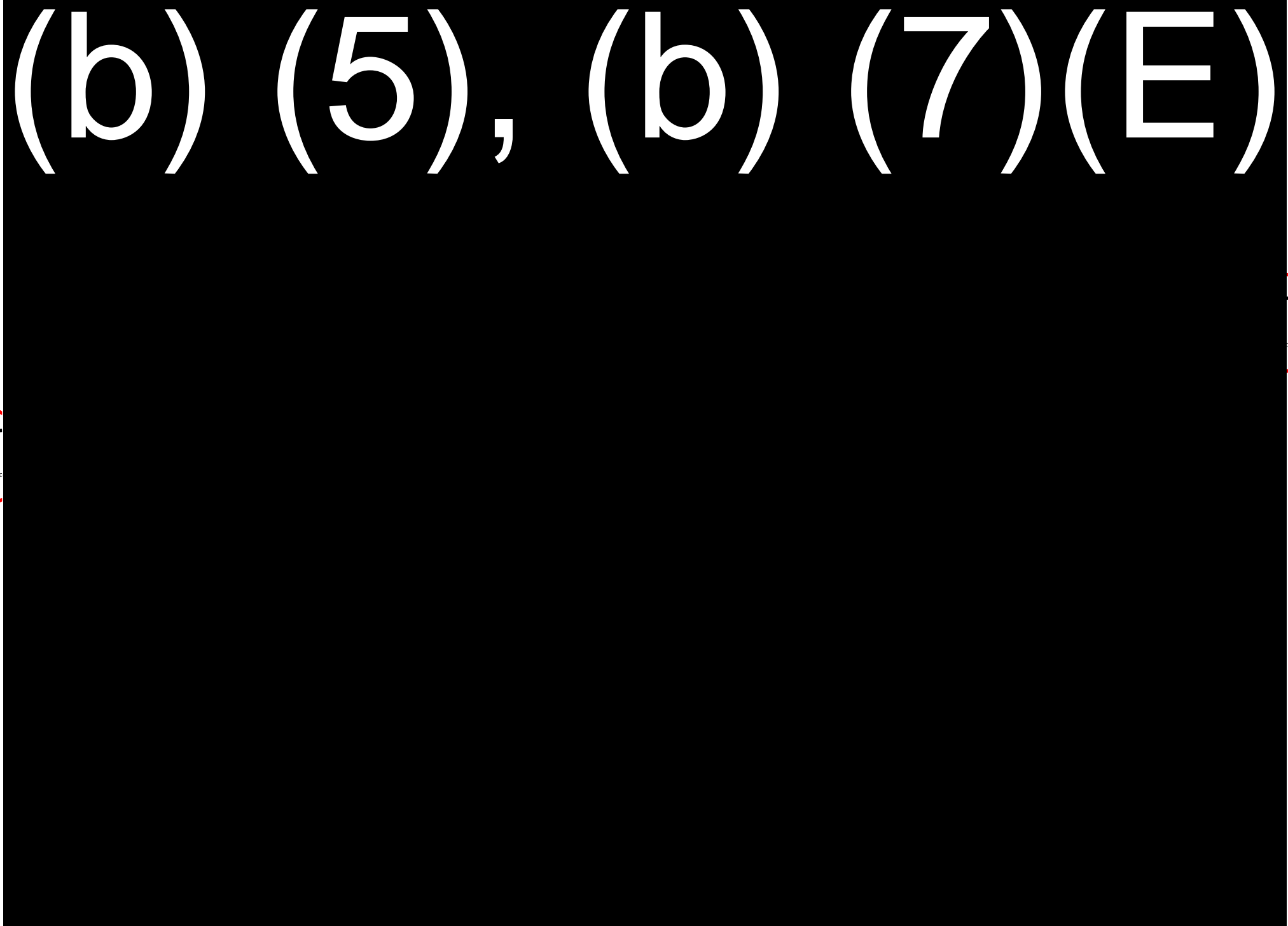
(b) (5)



(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)

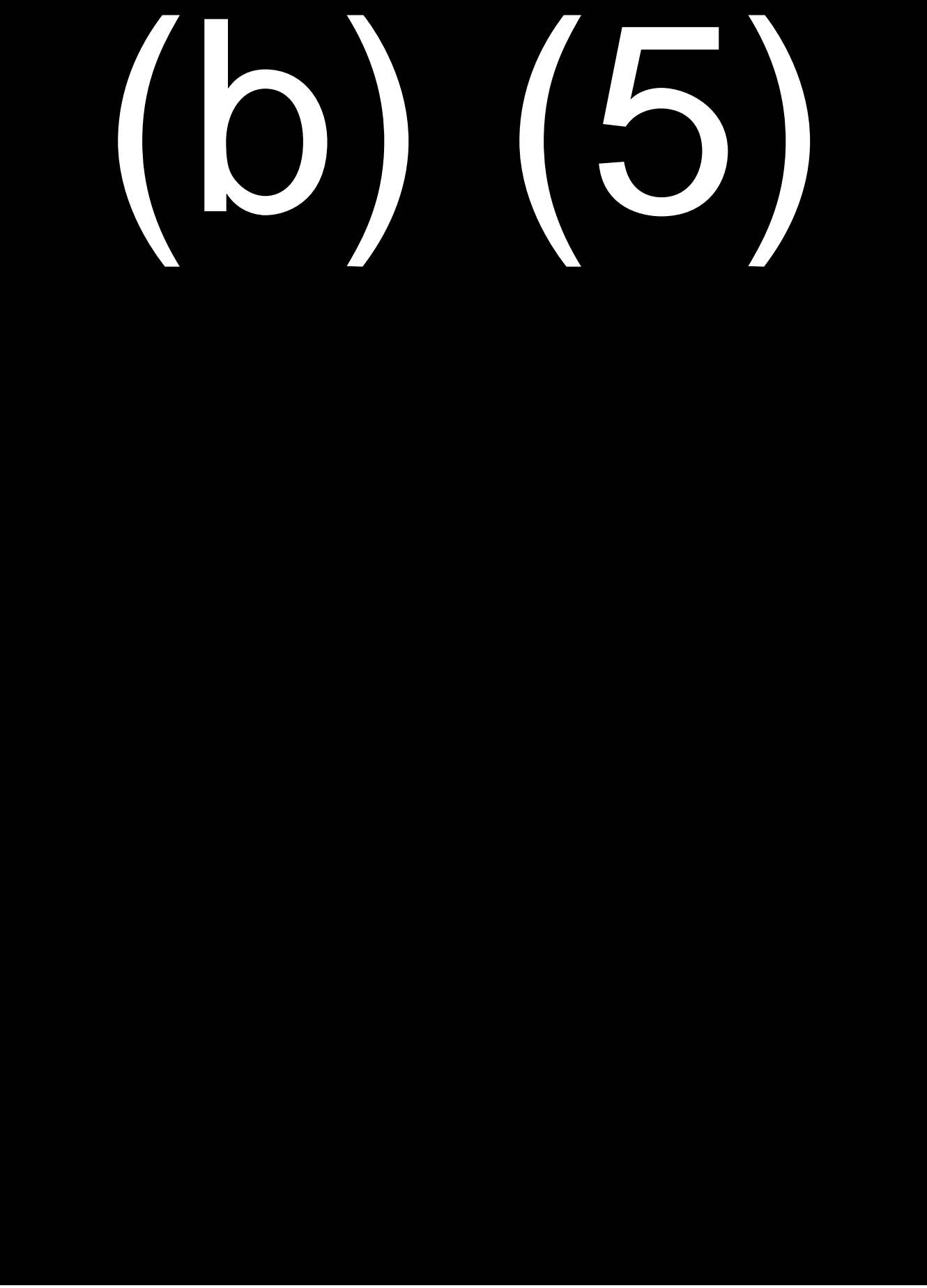


(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)



(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)

(b) (5)



(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)





(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)



(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)



(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)



(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)



(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)



(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)



(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)



(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)

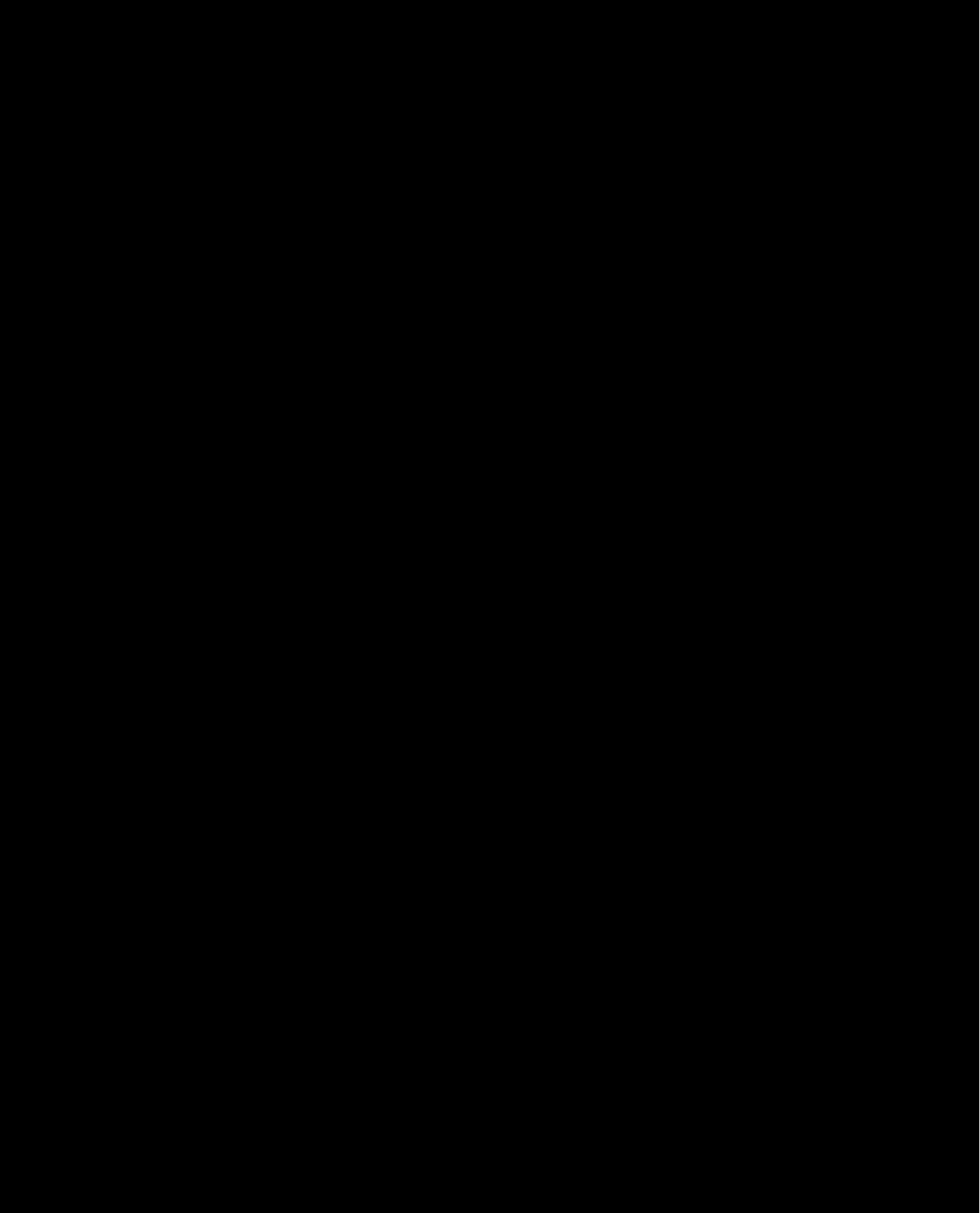




(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)



(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)



(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)



(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)



**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) [Newell, Russell](#)  
**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) ; "Maestas, Aislinn" (b) (6)  
(b) (6) ; [Jonathan Andrew](#); [Range, Brent](#); (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) ;  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Subject:** DHS/DOI Messaging Coordination  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 02, 2017 12:05:51 PM  
**Attachments:** [PAG Border Wall Waiver FINAL.DOC](#)  
[DOI Statement SDC Waiver DRAFT\\_080217.doc](#)  
**Importance:** High

---

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C) and Russell –

Thank you for your time yesterday. Per our discussion on the outreach call, attached is the draft DOI waiver statement that has been reviewed by our Office of Chief Counsel. I've also attached the most up to date draft of the public affairs guidance. My understanding is that this is being updated as needed and by the Department.

We discussed additional coordination with the Department to coordinate messaging efforts.

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C) – Please advise on next steps to ensure DOI is connected with the appropriate DHS POCs for this effort.

All – Please let us know what you might need from us to facilitate further.

Thanks,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C), BPAM PMO Communications

Kearns & West supporting  
OFAM/FM&E/BPAM

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)



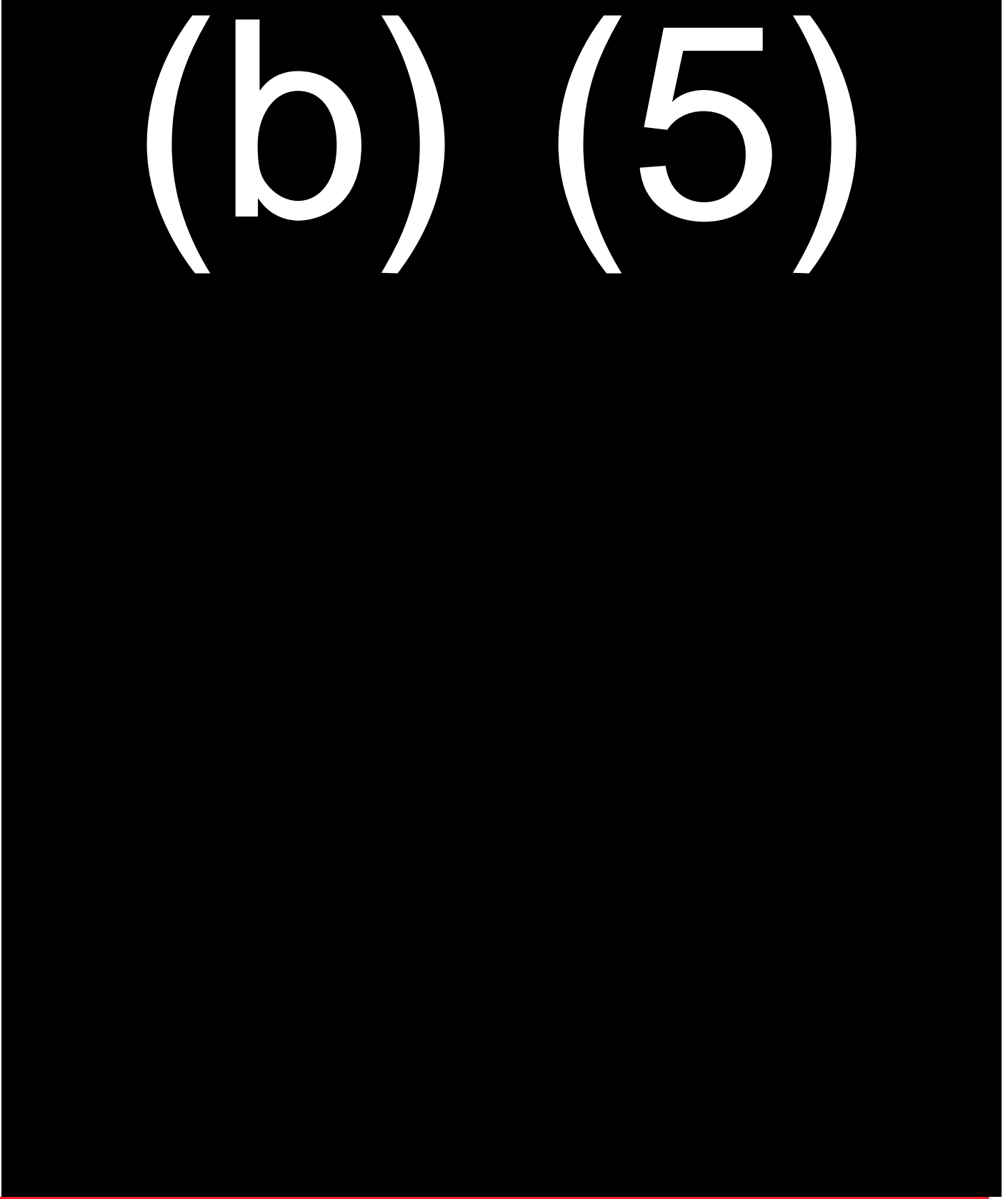
(b) (5)

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(b) (5)

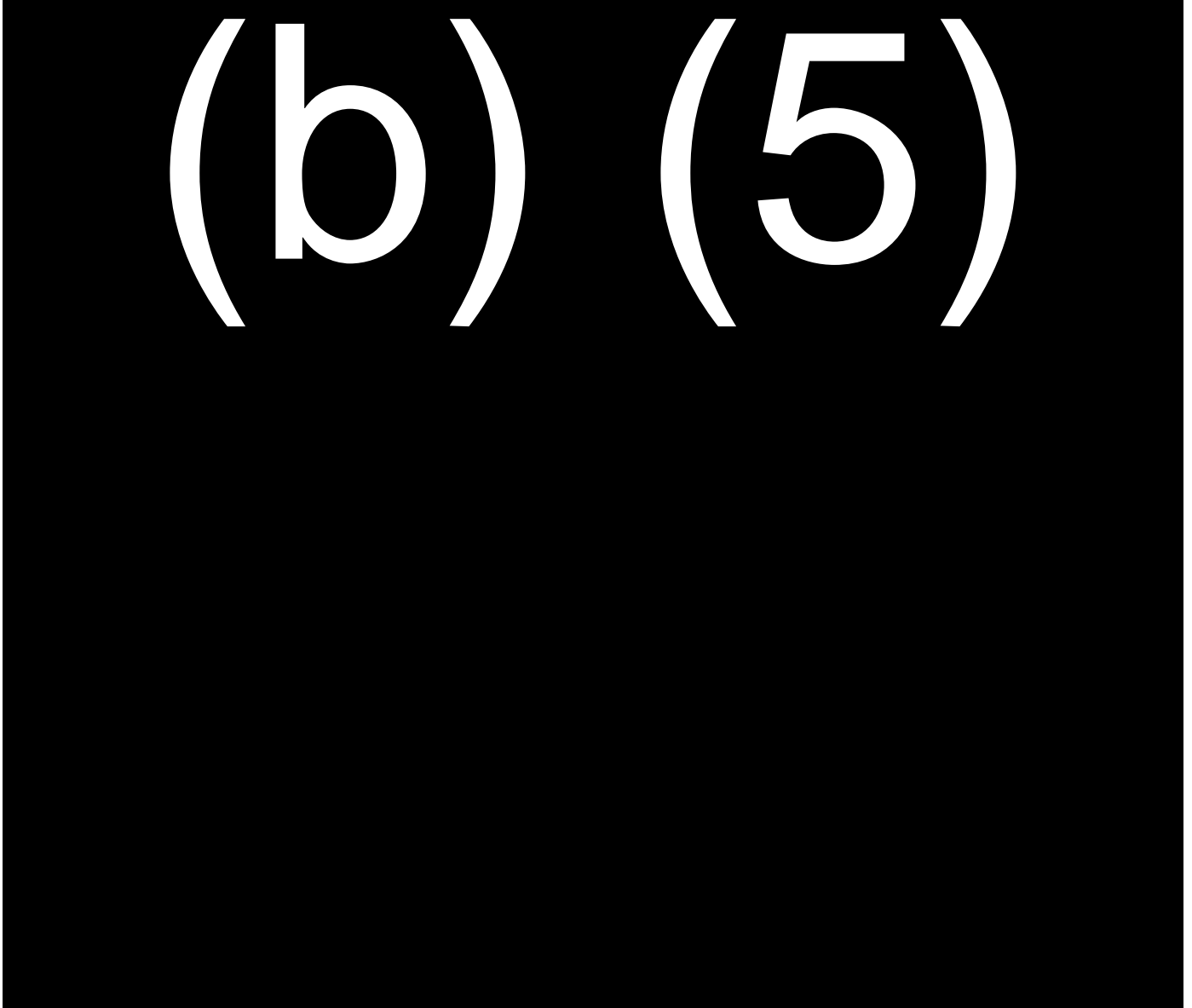


(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)



**Department of the Interior**  
**Statement Concerning Real ID Act Waiver**  
**Invoked by Secretary John Kelly**  
**Department of Homeland Security**

On July 26, 2017, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), executed a waiver of certain laws, regulations and other legal requirements in order to ensure the expeditious construction of border security infrastructure along our Nation's southern border. Included in this waiver are environmental statutes and legal authorities associated with Department of the Interior (DOI) programs.

Since January 25<sup>th</sup>, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has been working to implement President Trump's Executive Order 13767 - also known as Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Improvements. These efforts include planning for the construction of new infrastructure, the replacement of current border infrastructure with new and more effective systems, and the hiring of new agents and officers into the CBP ranks.

DOI and its constituent bureaus have been working very closely with DHS to facilitate planning associated with the replacement of existing infrastructure and construction of new border security infrastructure in an environmentally responsible manner. The waiver is intended to cover border infrastructure projects located within the US Border Patrol's San Diego sector including the replacement of approximately 15 miles of primary fence and construction of wall prototype. Although the waiver eliminates CBP's requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), CBP remains committed to responsible environmental stewardship and will continue to perform all important surveys for biological and natural resources, wetlands, culturally significant sites, and environmentally sensitive areas. In addition, CBP will continue to coordinate and consult with federal, state, and local stakeholders to identify and measure the potential for any impacts to resources present and develop appropriate mitigation strategies.

Border security infrastructure will decrease the adverse environmental effects of illegal activities upon fragile plant and animal communities located within Interior lands. As such, DOI will continue to strongly execute its mission to protect and manage the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage by coordinating closely with CBP in its implementation of Executive Order 13767.

**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**To:** [Maestas, Aislinn](#)  
**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) (b)(6)  
**Subject:** RGV Wall Protests Messaging  
**Date:** Monday, August 07, 2017 9:26:16 AM  
**Importance:** High

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Aislinn – Thank you for your voicemail. Pardon the delay in getting back to you. I've copied CBP's OPA HQ Southwest Border Media Division Branch Chief (b)(6);(b)(7)(C), the RGV Sector PAO (b)(6);(b)(7)(C), USBP RGV Sector Communications Director (b)(6);(b)(7)(C), and USACE Fort Worth District PAO (b)(6) to discuss a coordinated wall messaging strategy.

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C) – Does RGV have any statements or language related to inquiries about the planned protests at the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge on August 12? If not, do you think we can coordinate a statement or two between CBP, USACE, & USFWS?

Please let me know if I should schedule a quick call today or tomorrow to discuss.

Thanks,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C), BPAM PMO Communications

Kearns & West supporting  
OFAM/FM&E/BPAM

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C); Jonathan Andrew; (b)(6);(b)(7)(C); "Swift, Heather"; "Virginia Johnson"; "Maureen Foster"; "Harry Humbert"; "Laura Rigas"; "Pamela Barkin"; "Micah Chambers"; "Casey Hammond"; "Joy Nicholopoulos"; (b)(6); (b)(6);(b)(7)(C); (b)(6); "Maestas, Aislinn"; Brent Range; (b)(6); (b)(6);(b)(7)(C); (b)(6);(b)(7)(C); Newell, Russell  
**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C); Range, Brent; (b)(6);(b)(7)(C); (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: External Stakeholder Public & Congressional Affairs Coordination  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 22, 2017 1:44:02 PM  
**Attachments:** [FWS TPs\\_RGV Santa Ana NWR Border Wall\\_081817\\_CBP CLEAN REVISIONS.DOCX](#)  
[External Congressional Public Affairs Agenda 082217 & Meeting Notes 080817.docx](#)

---

Good afternoon –

Please find an agenda attached for our discussion.

Thanks,

(b)(6);(7)(C)

<<External Congressional Public Affairs Agenda 082217 & Meeting Notes 080817.docx>>

<<FWS TPs\_RGV Santa Ana NWR Border Wall\_081817\_CBP CLEAN REVISIONS.DOCX>>

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2017 4:24 PM

**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C); Jonathan Andrew; (b)(6);(b)(7)(C);

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C);

'Swift, Heather'; 'Virginia Johnson'; 'Maureen Foster'; 'Harry Humbert'; 'Laura Rigas'; 'Pamela Barkin'; 'Micah Chambers'; 'Casey Hammond'; 'Joy Nicholopoulos';

(b)(6)

(b)(6); (b)(6);(b)(7)(C);

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6); 'Maestas, Aislinn'; Brent Range;

(b)(6); (b)(6);(b)(7)(C);

**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C);

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C); Range, Brent; (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**Subject:** External Stakeholder Public & Congressional Affairs Coordination

**When:** Tuesday, August 22, 2017 2:00 PM-2:30 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).



**Where:** (b) (7)(E)

Good afternoon – Please find an agenda attached for our call.

~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge  
Proposed Border Wall  
Talking Points - UPDATED  
August 18, 2017

(b) (5), (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)



(b) (5)

# EXTERNAL CONGRESSIONAL & PUBLIC AFFAIRS COORDINATION & OUTREACH

Reoccurs Weekly

08/22/17

2:00 PM EST

## Discussion Items:

- FRIENDLY REMINDER: DO NOT PUT YOUR PHONE ON HOLD! Please hang up and dial back in if you have to take another call.
- RGV/Levee or Border Wall System
  - Tuesday, August 21 – Senator Cruz operational site visit in RGV
    - Follow-up meeting at w/local officials and USFWS
  - USFWS/CBP: Santa Ana Refuge messaging coordination – Talking Points attached
  - Geotech/boring work complete on levee near Santa Ana Refuge – no boring work scheduled for the next two weeks
  - Ongoing maintenance and repair activities moving forward on private property
  - Ongoing maintenance and repair activities moving forward on private property
  - FY18 Border Wall Landowner Research in Rio Grande Valley (RGV) Sector Ongoing
  - Thursday, August 24 - CBP, IBWC, USACE, & FEMA – Leadership discussion regarding wall impacts/benefits to levee
- SDC/Wall Prototype
  - Fence replacement - Geotech/boring complete
  - Wall Prototype Construction schedule – (b) (5)
- El Paso Sector/Fence Replacement
  - OFAM/BPAM coordinating USFWS visibility on fence replacement project via Borderlands Management Task Force meeting in late September/early October
  - Geotechnical/boring complete, final report submitted

## Last Meeting Notes – August 8, 2017:

- National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers annual conference in Pala, California - DHS participation
  - Provided high level bullets on CBP approach to handling culturally sensitive areas with regard to construction
- RGV/Levee or Border Wall System
  - Tuesday, August 8 USBP/NGO Meeting Debrief  
Info Chief Padilla shared:
    - NGOs wanted more concrete information
    - Chief Padilla reiterated that we are holding regular meetings to keep everyone informed, but nothing is set in stone- plans changing day by day
    - CBP looking into distributing consultation letters as follow up
    - Consultation letters – scope of specific projects in certain areas and CBP has targeted list of stakeholder (different NGOs, tribal entities, etc.)
  - Thursday, August 10 – Santa Ana Refuge visit with Sen Cornyn Regional Director & USBP
    - BP also participating
  - Saturday, August 12 or Sunday, August 13 – Planned protests at the Santa Ana Refuge – USFWS/CBP messaging coordination
    - PRO and ANTI Wall protests
    - Draft message for CBP and USFWS to release
  - CTIMR activities on hold on private property
    - When we learn more about when CBP is moving forward we will provide updates
    - CTIMR work scheduled on USFWS property this week
    - \* CTIMR work on going – just NOT on PRIVATE PROPERTY
  - No Geotech/boring currently scheduled
    - Date TBD
  - FY18 Border Wall Landowner Research in Rio Grande Valley (RGV) Sector Ongoing
    - All efforts being made through online tax records, etc.
    - Still waiting on clearance of what we will be funded for
  - USACE – Butterfly Park Issue
    - There have been many reports in RGV about work being done for CTIMR and confusing it for Wall...
    - (b) (5)
    - More than 50 letters generated by Butterfly Center RE private property rights RE maintenance
    - \* need larger conversation with OPA and DHS Public Affairs
    - \* Coordinate joint messaging system with DHS

- SDC/Wall Prototype & Fence Replacement
  - Geotech/boring in progress
    - ETA for completion date is 8/14
  - Wall Prototype Construction schedule – TBD
    - TBD based on protest resolution
  - (b) (7)(E)
- El Paso Sector/Fence Replacement
  - OFAM/BPAM coordinating USFWS visibility on fence replacement project via Borderlands Management Task Force meeting on August 9
    - If participants are interested in learning more about projects and where we are at in the design process, we will continue to coordinate
  - Design review this week onsite for Calexico & Santa Teresa
  - One boring site to be completed – TBD

**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**To:** "Swift, Heather"; "Virginia Johnson"; "Maureen Foster"; "Harry Humbert"; "Laura Rigas"; "Pamela Barkin"; "Micah Chambers"; "Casey Hammond"; "Joy Nicholopoulos"; (b)(6);(b)(7)(C); (b)(6)  
(b)(6) (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Subject:** Public & Congressional Affairs Coordination  
**Start:** Tuesday, June 06, 2017 2:00:00 PM  
**End:** Tuesday, June 06, 2017 2:30:00 PM  
**Location:** (b)(7)(E)  
**Attachments:** [Public Congressional Affairs Working Group Agenda\\_052217.docx](#)  
**Importance:** High

---

Good morning, We're adjusting the time to accommodate those on the west coast. I apologize for not considering the time difference. I hope this time works for everyone!

Thanks,

(b)(6)

Good afternoon,

CBP's Border Patrol and Air and Marine Program Management Office (BPAM PMO) would like to begin a weekly reoccurring meeting starting Monday, May 22. Our goal is to develop a streamlined process for RFIs, provide public affairs/messaging guidance, and share important program and project information/updates. Our understanding is that you are the points of contact for media and congressional coordination for IBWC, DOI/USFWS, USACE, and DOJ.

Please find an agenda attached for our first call. We also included a table with information for each participant to populate. If possible, please send me your information and we will circulate a POC list. If there are others that are involved with coordinating external outreach or messaging for your agency, please feel free to share their information so that they can be added to the meeting invitation.

Thank you for your patience as we coordinate our communications and outreach efforts. We looking forward to the continued dialogue; please let me know if you have any questions!

Thanks,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

<<Public Congressional Affairs Working Group\_Agenda\_052217.docx>>

# U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION (CBP)

## BORDER WALL/FENCE/TI COMMUNICATIONS & OUTREACH

### AGENDA, ACTION ITEMS, & NOTES

May 22, 2017

10:00 AM EST/Weekly

#### Topics for Discussion:

- CBP FY17 Projects: Overview
- Public & Congressional Affairs Coordination – Requests for Information Process

#### Attendees:

AGENCY	OFFICE	NAME/TITLE	ROLE	CONTACT INFO
CBP	Office of Public Affairs	(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)/Director, Media Relations		
		(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)/Branch Chief, Southwest Border		
	Office of Congressional Affairs	(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)		
		(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)		
		(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)		
	Intergovernmental Public Liaison Office	(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)/Director		
	Rio Grande Valley (RGV) Sector Communications	(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)/Director, Communications		
	Office of Facilities and Asset Management	(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)/Director, Business Operations		
		(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)/Branch Chief, Real Estate and Environmental		
		(b)(6);(b)(7)(C), Communications		

#### Meeting Notes:



**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C) (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
"Swift, Heather"; "Virginia Johnson"; "Maureen Foster"; "Harry  
Humbert"; "Laura Rigas"; "Pamela Barkin"; "Micah Chambers"; "Casey Hammond"; "Joy Nicholopoulos";  
(b) (6)  
**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Subject:** Canceled: Public & Congressional Affairs Coordination  
**Attachments:** [Public Congressional Affairs Working Group Agenda\\_052217.docx](#)  
**Importance:** High

---

Good morning, We're adjusting the time to accommodate those on the west coast. I apologize for not considering the time difference. I hope this time works for everyone!

Thanks,

(b)(6);

Good afternoon,

CBP's Border Patrol and Air and Marine Program Management Office (BPAM PMO) would like to begin a weekly reoccurring meeting starting Monday, May 22. Our goal is to develop a streamlined process for RFIs, provide public affairs/messaging guidance, and share important program and project information/updates. Our understanding is that you are the points of contact for media and congressional coordination for IBWC, DOI/USFWS, USACE, and DOJ.

Please find an agenda attached for our first call. We also included a table with information for each participant to populate. If possible, please send me your information and we will circulate a POC list. If there are others that are involved with coordinating external outreach or messaging for your agency, please feel free to share their information so that they can be added to the meeting invitation.

Thank you for your patience as we coordinate our communications and outreach efforts. We looking forward to the continued dialogue; please let me know if you have any questions!

Thanks,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

<<Public Congressional Affairs Working Group\_Agenda\_052217.docx>>

# U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION (CBP)

## BORDER WALL/FENCE/TI COMMUNICATIONS & OUTREACH

### AGENDA, ACTION ITEMS, & NOTES

May 22, 2017

10:00 AM EST/Weekly

#### Topics for Discussion:

- CBP FY17 Projects: Overview
- Public & Congressional Affairs Coordination – Requests for Information Process

#### Attendees:

AGENCY	OFFICE	NAME/TITLE	ROLE	CONTACT INFO
CBP	Office of Public Affairs	(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)/Director, Media Relations		
		(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)/Branch Chief, Southwest Border		
	Office of Congressional Affairs	(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)		
		(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)		
		(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)		
	Intergovernmental Public Liaison Office	(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)/Director		
	Rio Grande Valley (RGV) Sector Communications	(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)/Director, Communications		
	Office of Facilities and Asset Management	(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)/Director, Business Operations		
		(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)/Branch Chief, Real Estate and Environmental		
		(b)(6);(b)(7)(C), Communications		

#### Meeting Notes:

**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**To:** [Range, Brent](#); [Newell, Russell](#)  
**Cc:** "Maestas, Aislinn"; [Keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:Keenan_adams@fws.gov); (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) [Jonathan Andrew](#)  
**Subject:** FW: RGV Wall +TI Maintenance & Repair Work Today-Next Week  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2017 11:36:33 AM  
**Attachments:** [FWS TPs RGV Santa Ana NWR Border Wall\\_081817\\_CBP CLEAN REVISIONS.DOCX](#)

---

Hi Brent, Russell –

Please see the attached statement cleared by CBP's OPA.

---

**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 18, 2017 2:47 PM  
**To:** Maestas, Aislinn <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** Keenan Adams <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)>; (b) (6)  
(b) (6) (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
  
**Subject:** RE: RGV Wall +TI Maintenance & Repair Work Today-Next Week

Good afternoon Aislinn and Keenan –

Please find a few minor reviews to the talking points you provided earlier this week. Thank you for the opportunity to review and let us know if you have any questions.

Have a great weekend.

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
M: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**From:** Maestas, Aislinn [[mailto:aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 17, 2017 5:15 PM  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Cc:** Keenan Adams <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: RGV Wall +TI Maintenance & Repair Work Today-Next Week

Good afternoon (b)(6);(b)(7)(C),

Just checking the status on this. I am out of the office tomorrow. If you do hear back from your front office, can you please coordinate with my supervisor, Keenan Adams (cc'd here), so we can get them out to our staff in the field?

Thank you,  
- Aislinn

On Thu, Aug 17, 2017 at 7:51 AM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) >  
wrote:

Hi Aislinn –

These look great! I am making a few minor comments and forwarding to our front office for concurrence. I will emphasize that we need the green light by COB tomorrow.

Thanks,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

M: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**From:** Maestas, Aislinn [mailto:[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 16, 2017 3:44 PM

**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) >

**Subject:** Re: RGV Wall +TI Maintenance & Repair Work Today-Next Week

I went ahead and took a stab and drafting a few TPs. Let me know if you want to have a call to discuss. As I stated in another email, our goal would be to get these out to the field to use by COB Thursday, pending all approvals.

Thank you,  
- Aislinn

On Wed, Aug 16, 2017 at 5:43 AM, (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
wrote:

Good morning Aislinn,

Please see below regarding activity in RGV today through next week.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need more information.

Thank you,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**Date:** August 16, 2017 at 7:19:24 AM EDT

To: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Cc:

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

RGV WALL <[RGVWALL@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:RGVWALL@cbp.dhs.gov)>,  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**Subject: RGV Wall +TI Maintenance & Repair Work Today-Next Week**

Good morning –

Please note CBP activity today and through next week below and (in detailed reports) attached.

#### **Rio Grande Valley (RGV) Sector**

- Wall Related Activity (via USACE/Baker)
  - Utility markings work today
  - Survey/drilling including Santa Ana on Friday/Saturday
- Planned/routine TI maintenance and repair (via CBP Comprehensive Tactical Infrastructure Maintenance and Repair (CTIMR) program NOT USACE or wall related activity)
  - Road work at Fort Ringgold Boat Ramp (access road is owned by Rio Grande City ISD) – CBP/USBP given OK to perform work on the road last week
  - Road and vegetation work on Rincon Road (owned by USFWS) – Contractor coordinating w/USFWS today to schedule site visit before starting work next week

Thanks,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

M: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

--

**Aislinn Maestas**  
Public Affairs Specialist  
External Affairs  
Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Phone: 505-248-6599  
[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

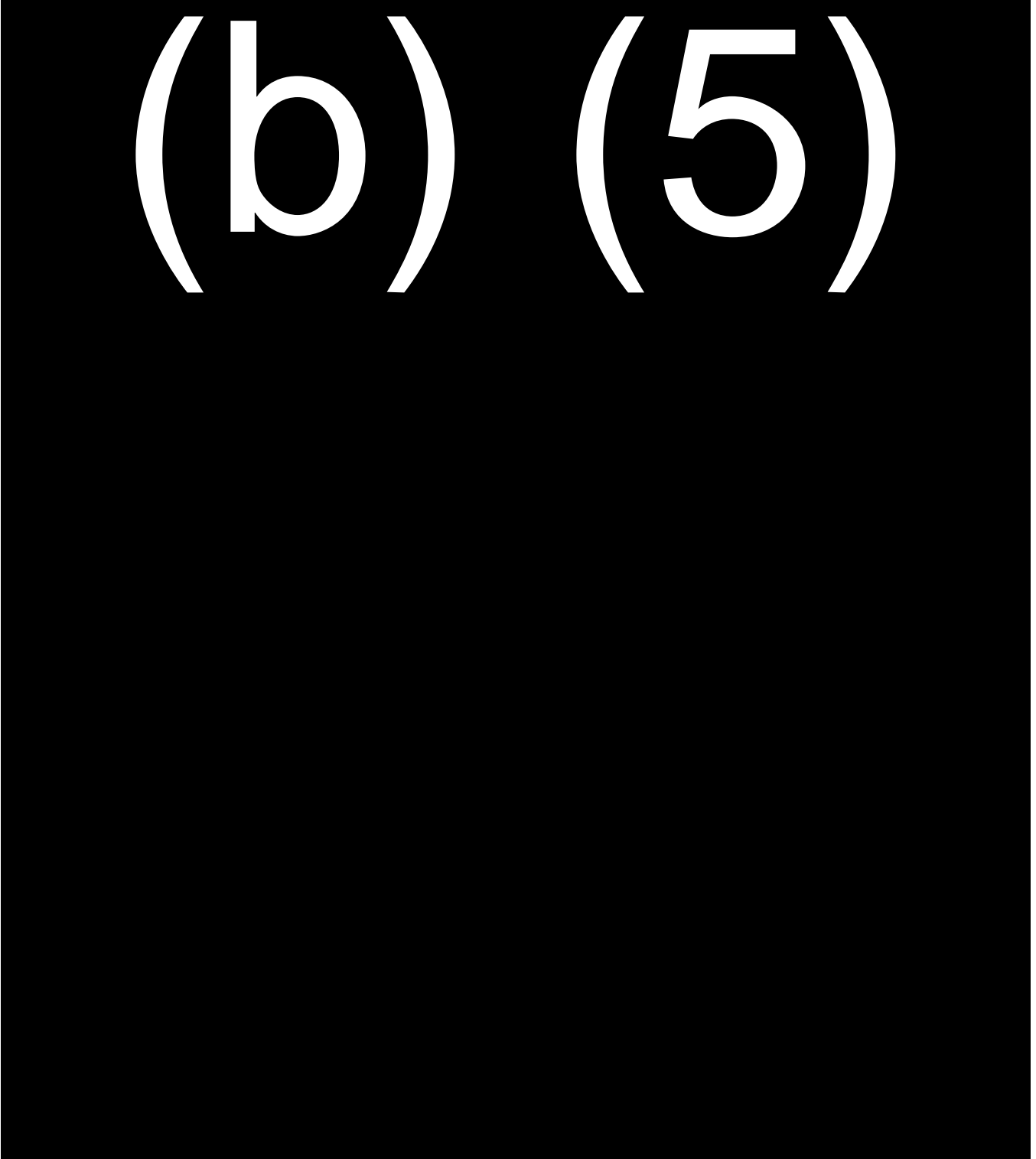
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**Aislinn Maestas**  
Public Affairs Specialist  
External Affairs  
Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Phone: 505-248-6599  
[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge  
Proposed Border Wall  
Talking Points - UPDATED  
August 18, 2017

(b) (5)





(b) (5)

**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**To:** "Swift, Heather"; "Virginia Johnson"; "Maureen Foster"; "Harry Humbert"; "Laura Rigas"; "Pamela Barkin"; "Micah Chambers"; "Casey Hammond"; "Joy Nicholopoulos"; (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) (b)(6)  
(b)(6) (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Subject:** Public & Congressional Affairs Coordination  
**Attachments:** [Public Congressional Affairs Working Group Agenda\\_052217.docx](#)

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Good afternoon,

Pardon the time change again! We're adjusting the first meeting to accommodate ensure IBWC and DOI can participate. I hope this works ok for everyone.

Happy Friday!

Thanks,

(b)(6)

Good afternoon,

CBP's Border Patrol and Air and Marine Program Management Office (BPAM PMO) would like to begin a weekly reoccurring meeting starting Monday, May 22. Our goal is to develop a streamlined process for RFIs, provide public affairs/messaging guidance, and share important program and project information/updates. Our understanding is that you are the points of contact for media and congressional coordination for IBWC, DOI/USFWS, USACE, and DOJ.

Please find an agenda attached for our first call. We also included a table with information for each participant to populate. If possible, please send me your information and we will circulate a POC list. If there are others that are involved with coordinating external outreach or messaging for your agency, please feel free to share their information so that they can be added to the meeting invitation.

Thank you for your patience as we coordinate our communications and outreach efforts. We looking forward to the continued dialogue; please let me know if you have any questions!

Thanks,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

<<Public Congressional Affairs Working Group\_Agenda\_052217.docx>>

# U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION (CBP)

## BORDER WALL/FENCE/TI COMMUNICATIONS & OUTREACH

### AGENDA, ACTION ITEMS, & NOTES

May 22, 2017

10:00 AM EST/Weekly

#### Topics for Discussion:

- CBP FY17 Projects: Overview
- Public & Congressional Affairs Coordination – Requests for Information Process

#### Attendees:

AGENCY	OFFICE	NAME/TITLE	ROLE	CONTACT INFO
CBP	Office of Public Affairs	(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)/Director, Media Relations		
		(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)/Branch Chief, Southwest Border		
	Office of Congressional Affairs	(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)		
		(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)		
		(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)		
	Intergovernmental Public Liaison Office	(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)/Director		
	Rio Grande Valley (RGV) Sector Communications	(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)/Director, Communications		
	Office of Facilities and Asset Management	(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)/Director, Business Operations		
		(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)/Branch Chief, Real Estate and Environmental		
		(b)(6);(b)(7)(C), Communications		

#### Meeting Notes:

**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**To:** [Maestas, Aislinn](#); [Newell, Russell](#)  
**Cc:** [Range, Brent](#); [Jonathan Andrew](#); (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: AAR - Interview with Telemundo and CBS/KENS San Antonio  
**Date:** Monday, August 07, 2017 11:49:32 PM

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FYSA – pretty generic content, but wanted to provide some visibility on CBP/USBP messaging in RGV regarding the article below after USBP/BPAM met with local NGOs.

[http://www.themonitor.com/news/immigration/article\\_a7237160-796f-11e7-a379-837d144b424d.html](http://www.themonitor.com/news/immigration/article_a7237160-796f-11e7-a379-837d144b424d.html)

Thanks,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

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**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 07, 2017 9:49 PM  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: AAR - Interview with Telemundo and CBS/KENS San Antonio

Chief,  
AAR on today's interviews.  
Telemundo will air tonight.  
KENS story will air tomorrow.

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
Director of Communications  
RGV Sector Border Patrol

---

**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 07, 2017 8:33:11 PM  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: AAR - Interview

## ALCON

The interview provided to (b) (6) KENS 5 and (b) (6) Telemundo 40 included the bullets listed below.

- RGV Border Patrol has been meeting with local stakeholders, governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to provide available information regarding the proposed levee wall.

- RGV has determined that a combination of personnel, technology and infrastructure is required to better secure our border.
- A pre-decisional map is available, however due to the early stage of the wall project, the plans are subject to change to ensure that the path forward is one that will have the least adverse impact on the environment and stakeholders.
- The current priority is to secure infrastructure in areas that do not have lateral access roads and are commonly exploited by criminal organizations

**Respectfully**

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

---

**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, August 07, 2017 3:24 PM

**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**Subject:** AAR - Interview

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

We need a few bullets on the interview on email please.

Thank you,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

I

Communications Branch

RGV Sector HQ

O: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

C: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) Brent Range;  
[Jonathan Andrew](#); [Stewart, Mendel](#); [Joanna Gilkeson@fws.gov](#); [Zoutendyk, David](#); [Gower, Patrick](#);  
[jdecker@blm.gov](#); (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Subject:** CBP-DOI/FWS/BLM Fence Replacement Site Visit & Discussion  
**Attachments:** [CBP-SDC FWS Meeting Agenda FINAL 071317.doc](#)

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Good afternoon –

Please find an agenda attached for the CBP FY17 Fence Replacement Project site visit and discussion attached. A PowerPoint presentation will be provided at the meeting. Please note that (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) will be at the gate to let participants in. Her mobile number is (b)(6);(b)(7)(C). Also, please note that the administration building is between two buildings within the breezeway facing north.

We did not include a conference line for the project overview discussion at 1pm. If there are other participants who want to dial-in, please send me their email addresses and we will coordinate a dial-in.

Thank you,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

<<CBP-SDC FWS Meeting Agenda\_FINAL\_071317.doc>>



## U.S. Customs and Border Protection



**Thursday, July 13, 2017  
10:00 AM – 02:00 PM**

**U.S. Border Patrol (b) (7)(E)**

### **PARTICIPANTS:**

#### **U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)**

##### **Border Patrol and Air & Marine PMO (BPAM PMO)**

- (b)(6);(b)(7)(C), Division Director
- (b)(6);(b)(7)(C), Environmental & Real Estate Branch Chief
- (b)(6);(b)(7)(C), Program Manager

#### **U.S. Border Patrol (USBP)**

- (b)(6);(b)(7)(C), Supervisory Border Patrol Agent/Public Lands Liaison San Diego Sector
- (b)(6);(b)(7)(C), Acting Deputy Director of Logistics, USBP San Diego Sector

#### **U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI)**

- Jon Andrew, Interagency Borderland Coordinator
- Brent Range, Interagency Borderland Coordinator

#### **U.S. Fish and Wildlife (USFWS)**

- Joanna Gilkeson
- Patrick Gower
- Mendel Stewart
- David Zoutendyk

#### **Bureau of Land Management (BLM)**

- Julie Decker



**U.S. Customs and  
Border Protection**



## **AGENDA**

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>10:00 – 10:15</b> | <b>Welcome, Introductions, &amp; Depart for Site Visit</b>   |
| <b>10:30 – 12:00</b> | <b>FY17 San Diego Sector Fence/Wall Replacement Site Visit</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Pedestrian Fence Replacement – 14 miles</b></li></ul>  |
| <b>12:00 – 01:00</b> | <b>LUNCH</b>   |
| <b>01:00</b>         | <b>CBP &amp; USFWS: SDC Pedestrian Fence Replacement Project</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Discuss FWS Input and Coordination</b></li></ul><br><b>CBP: FY17 Projects Overview &amp; Levee/Border Wall Update</b><br><br><b>Action Items &amp; Next Steps</b><br><br><b>Closing Comments</b> |



**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**To:** Maestas, Aislinn; (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) Newell, Russell  
**Subject:** CBP Public Affairs Guidance & Talking Points  
**Date:** Monday, August 07, 2017 2:28:52 PM  
**Attachments:** [NGO Meeting Talking Points\\_080317\\_FINAL.DOCX](#)  
[AAR RGV Wall NGO- Aug 3 2017.docx](#)  
[PAG Border Wall Waiver FINAL.DOC](#)  
[DOI Statement\\_SDC Waiver\\_DRAFT\\_080217.doc](#)  
**Importance:** High

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Aislinn – Thank you for your call. Per our discussion, attached are the materials that were developed for the NGO meeting last week referenced in the RGV article below. I've also attached a Public Affair Guidance document developed for the SDC waiver that was published last week, in addition to a draft DOI statement in response to the waiver for your visibility on other messaging efforts. I hope this information provides some additional background. Please note that these materials aren't being share with the media or other external stakeholders directly. They are being used as guidance for responding to inquiries and/or used during meetings with external stakeholders.

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C) – Aislinn and I discussed the planned protests at the Santa Ana Refuge this weekend. Aislinn will be at the Refuge to coordinate and field media inquiries/coverage. FWS is developing a fact sheet to distribute to media. FWS would like CBP to provide a statement/paragraph on what we're doing, why, and any other context we can provide externally. We are developing a draft statement and will be sure to send it to you and (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) for review and for concurrence/approval with RGV Sector leadership.

Please let me know if there are any questions or if we need to discuss further.

Thanks,

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

[http://www.themonitor.com/news/immigration/article\\_a7237160-796f-11e7-a379-837d144b424d.html](http://www.themonitor.com/news/immigration/article_a7237160-796f-11e7-a379-837d144b424d.html)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C), BPAM PMO Communications

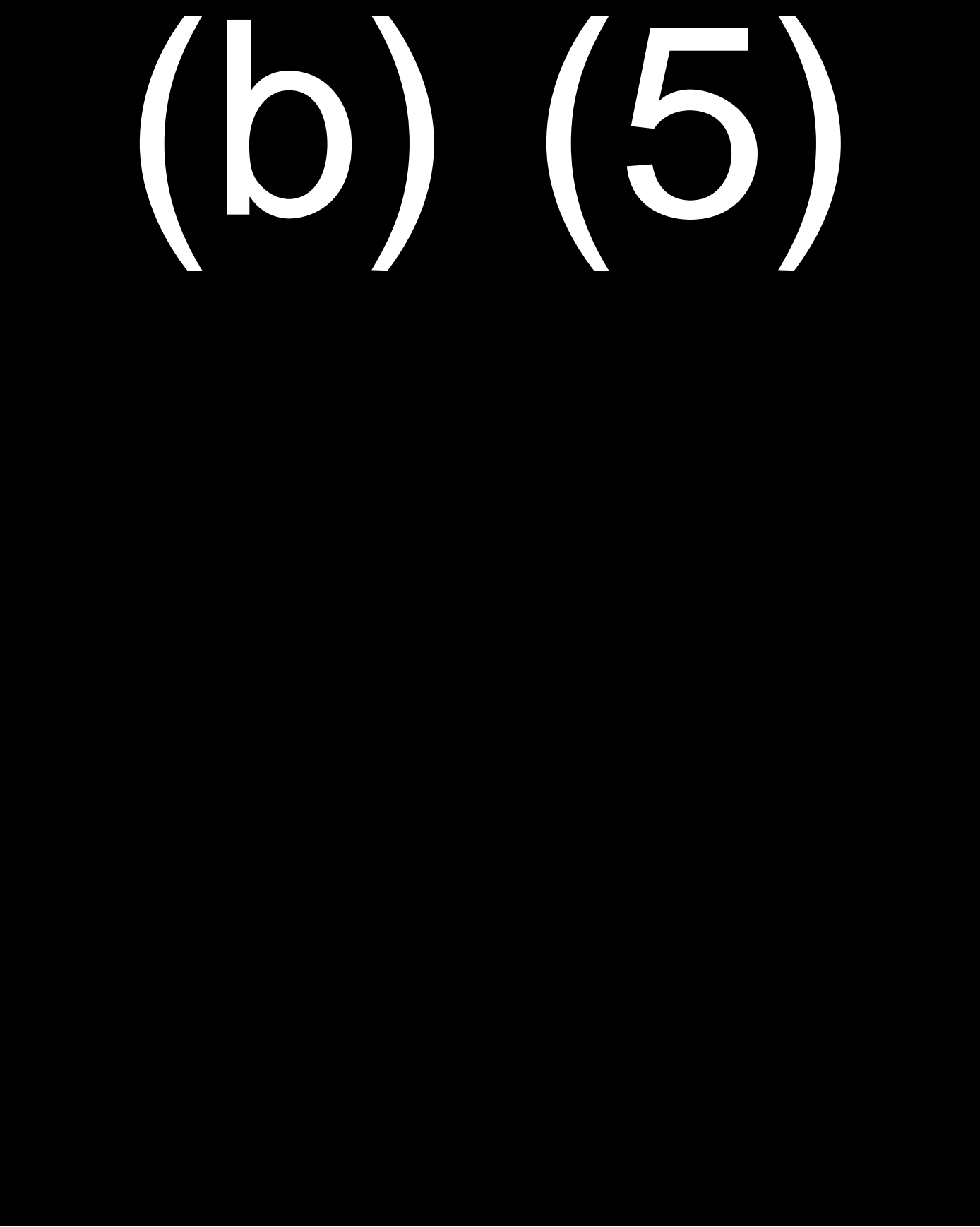
Kearns & West supporting  
OFAM/FM&E/BPAM

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b) (5)



- Recent Media
  - Reported border-wall work being done on the National Butterfly Center's property in Mission, Texas.
  - **FACT:** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' contractor has not performed any clearing or tree removals in the vicinity of the National Butterfly Center. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers contract allows for geotechnical studies and the collection of soil samples in the Rio Grande Valley obtained within the limits of the permanent levee easements owned by the U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission.
    - USACE/A-E Work: Taking aerial photos and markings for geotech borings was on the levee road and ramps. This area is within the IBWC managed lands. Access to the levee was via public roads.
    - The work that was being completed by the CTIMR contractor was on a road that is on the Butterfly Center, just north of the levee. However, the property manager for the Butterfly Center thought the activities being completed by Baker were also being conducted on the road that is on the Butterfly Center. CBP has a license with the Butterfly Center (executed through their corporate headquarters) to conduct the CTIMR work. The Butterfly Center was not notified of the work before it took place, which is typically part of the process.
  - Wall construction to begin November  
**FACT:** Currently, construction is not scheduled to begin until January 2018, pending receipt of funds
  - 35 Gate project authorized  
**FACT:** Project is funded and currently ongoing with real estate efforts underway.
  - Wall cutting through refuge  
**FACT:** The wall is set to follow the current levee structure and will serve a dual purpose border security and flood control by armoring the levee on the south side.
  - DHS can waive environmental regulations  
**FACT:** Environmental Waiver is an option moving forward, but no decision will be made regarding Waiver until funding is received. This will be at the Secretary's discretion.

**U. S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION**  
**NGO Meeting - RGV Levee/Border Wall Program**  
**After Action Report**  
**August 3, 2017**

**Participants**

Manuel Padilla Jr, Chief Patrol Agent  
Raul L. Ortiz, Deputy Chief Patrol Agent  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C) Director FM&E  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C) Division Chief Operational Programs  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C) Division Chief Law Enforcement Operations  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C) Assistant Chief Patrol Agent  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C) Division Chief Mission Readiness Operations  
(b)(6) Sierra Club  
(b)(6) La Union Del Pueblo Entero  
(b)(6) RGV Equal Voice Network  
(b)(6) Frontera Audubon  
(b)(6) Texas Civil Rights Project  
(b)(6) Friends of the Wildlife Corridor  
(b)(6)

**Purpose**

This briefing was to provide a formalized opportunity for Stakeholders and appropriate DHS and CBP leadership to engage in appropriate discussion regarding projects in the Rio Grande Valley.

**Briefing**

Chief Patrol Agent (CPA) Manuel Padilla Jr. began the briefing with formal introductions. Everyone in the room introduced themselves and identified their representation of non-governmental organizations (NGO).

The Chief opened the presentation with "The Shift", a video illustrating our border security strategy and results through building up tactical infrastructure, technology and personnel. Chief Padilla went on to explain the different Border Patrol corridors from California to South Texas and how each corridor has evolved throughout the years. CPA Padilla explained today's strategy of utilizing domain awareness, impedance and denial, access and mobility and mission readiness to secure the border. He also stressed the lack of infrastructure in the Rio Grande Valley.

As part of the presentation- and to help frame the discussion- CPA Padilla provided history dating back to Proposition 187 and the execution of "Operation Hold the Line" in 1993. He detailed how the border went from a chaotic state to a managed environment in areas where the right combination of personnel, technology and infrastructure (PTI) were applied. He also told the group that we are still working on that today- finishing what we started.

CPA Padilla explained how detection and response is critical and will lead to terrain denial. He stated that as PTI is established, we also focus on counter network operations. He reiterated that

California, Arizona and West Texas/New Mexico have attained a level of operational control where South Texas, RGV AOR specifically, is still indicative of a weak/porous border.

Static displays showed areas where the wall and gates already exist within the RGV AOR- and also where they are proposed. Also displayed were statistical maps showing how the current infrastructure has shifted much of RGV's traffic to the western corridor where we have little to no technology, infrastructure or lateral access roads.

(b) (6) with La Union del Pueblo Entero stated his position that "The Shift" video was missing loss of life statistics and insinuated that infrastructure and border policy was responsible for an increase in deaths despite making USBP's job more manageable.

CPA Padilla alluded to the recent situation involving the tractor trailer tragedy in San Antonio and stated that any of the almost 30 similar cases we've seen this year could have resulted in the same. He explained how our western U.S. corridors have fewer deaths in recent years as a result of being more managed borders due to the investments in PTI.

Deputy Chief Ortiz commented that we are seeing an uptick in drownings and deaths near the river areas than in years past. CPA Padilla then also provided the goal of saving lives, briefly discussing the Missing Migrant Initiative.

(b) (6) with Frontera Audubon stated that the wall would not be a significant factor, pointedly speaking about the Brownsville, Texas area. CPA Padilla responded by pointing out the sizable presence of technology and infrastructure in that area and talked about how about 6% of RGV's traffic is in our eastern corridor versus a nearly 85% rate in the western corridor. He also reiterated the need for a high level of detection and response as well as lateral access. He explained the numerous terrain challenges and how the wall would contribute to these needs.

The Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge was brought up as a concern, and CPA Padilla explained that he had just been there yesterday and guaranteed that smuggling is problematic in that area. He referred to the trash accumulation display and elaborated on refuge specific challenges. He stated that we are trying to provide border security with minimal impact to the refuge areas but we have to address the smuggling. Plainly stated, those also are refuges for smugglers.

(b) (6) with The Sierra Club, stated that a border wall would limit the mobility of an ocelot and that trash does not. CPA Padilla stated that a different point of view could also be that a terrorist or sexual offender just crossed into that area. He stated that he believed we could achieve both border security and preservation of the refuge and (b) (6) asked where CPA Padilla believed there was operational control. CPA Padilla cited San Diego as an example but that it still has some challenges pending.

(b) (6) with Arise asked why there is not a better solution than a wall for the refuge areas. CPA Padilla replied that the two pillars are "detection" and "response" and that these are extremely difficult areas for detection. He explained that the technology alternative would require a greater amount of brush/foilage to be cleared and that it would not be beneficial to the

refuge area. CPA Padilla acknowledged that it is an extremely difficult situation and tough to find an answer.

(b) (6) then asked CPA Padilla to elaborate on the gates issue and why the Hidalgo Pump House Gate is closed. Division Chief (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) confirmed that the City of Hidalgo had requested and made an agreement to keep it closed.

(b) (6) with Frontera Audubon asked about how many feet and acres the wall would encompass in the refuge. CPA Padilla stated that he has been in close communication with Director Robert Jess (USFW Santa Ana) and they are discussing the best possible options. He stated that it is too soon to give any numbers and that it could quickly change. Director (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated that they are trying to minimize impact where the wall will be placed. He commented that they have negotiated in the past to provide continued access to bike trails and have worked around other concerns. CPA Padilla reaffirmed that they do have some ability to negotiate and once again stated that they are working very closely with Robert Jess.

(b) (6) asked if the proposed wall maps could be distributed. Director (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated that there is still hydraulic analysis pending as some of the proposed areas are in the floodplain. Deputy Chief Ortiz stated that these are very conceptual and it would be premature to distribute. CPA Padilla and Director (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) explained how the wall in Arizona was designed to assist in flood and monsoon situations.

(b) (6) asked CPA Padilla how much latitude he has in regards to wall placement. CPA Padilla stated that his concern is detection and response and to achieve operational control. Deputy Chief Ortiz commented that CPA Padilla is also an advocate for everyone in the room and that their concerns would also be considered.

(b) (6) asked who, in particular, decided to make Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge the starting point. Director (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) answered that it was him (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and that, within the 28 miles, it was the most feasible and easiest starting point due to the federal government owning the land.

(b) (6) asked Director (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) if monies could be moved around if the border wall was not funded. Director (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated that he could not answer that and that he did not have control of monies being appropriated.

Director (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated that the wall was for impedance and denial. He stated that there was an interest in the Hidalgo model. (b) (6) asked who specifically had expressed interest in that model and Director (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) alluded to a letter sent to the DHS Secretary by city officials.

CPA Padilla commented that we should stay out of the politics of the wall. (b) (6) then asked if there could be a public meeting regarding where the wall is considered being placed. He stated that he believed the public needed to be informed and have a say. Director (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated that it would be premature. CPA Padilla stated that they have been meeting with mayors and local officials informing them of any updates. In other words- this isn't being done "in secret."



Deputy Chief Ortiz commented that although apprehensions are down, there has been an increase in agent assaults. Deputy Ortiz emphasized border security and the welfare of agents as well as the local communities.

(b) (6) asked who could provide information on where the wall was going to be constructed. CPA Padilla stated that construction of the wall is still in the planning stages and it has not been funded; more information will be released once funding was approved.

(b) (6) stated that there should be more communication with the community. Division Chief (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated that it was also incumbent on them to go back to the community- through their clubs and organizations- and provide factual information that they heard from CPA Padilla.

(b) (6) then asked about the Butterfly Park boring and accessing private property. CPA Padilla explained that he met with (b) (6) from the Butterfly Park Center and discussed the issues she encountered. Director (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) confirmed that the boring was only done on federal property and that access through private land was always requested via rights of entry. Additional work being done in the National Butterfly Center had nothing to do with wall planning/construction but was, in fact, Comprehensive Tactical Infrastructure Maintenance and Repair (CTIMR) work.

(b) (6) with the Texas Civil Rights Project asked if there were plans to access private lands for the construction of the wall. Director (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) responded that we are only working with federally owned property at this point. However, if private property access is needed we would approach that through the use of a "Right of Entry" (ROE.)

CPA Padilla reiterated the operational perspective of securing the border with minimal impacts. He also provided a contact number to the RGV Communications Division for any future questions.

### Summary

All in attendance appreciated the time taken by CPA Padilla (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and RGV staff.

### Materials Utilized

Throughout this briefing, visual static displays were used to show the RGV Sector: chart personnel logistics, illegal immigration fluctuation, and current/future border wall/levee locations. Photographs (smartphone) were taken of the briefing.

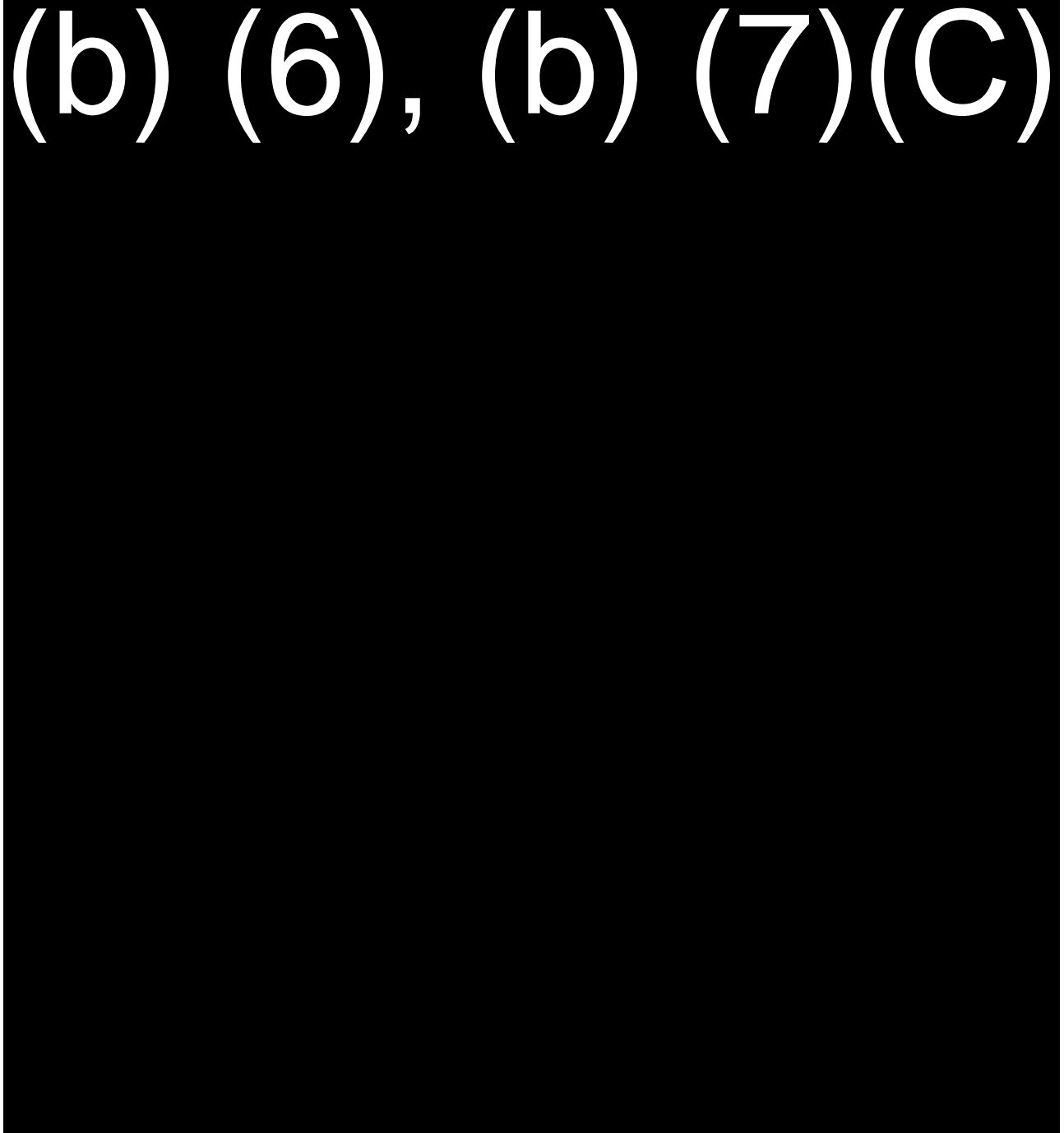
### Notes and Concerns

The NGO's in attendance requested follow up meetings to discuss any updates or changes regarding construction of the wall. The Chief committed to ongoing meetings, as necessary.

NOTE (b) (6) is a contributor to the Rio Grande Valley Guardian. A link to his work is here: [http://riograndeguardian.com/author/\(b\)\(6\)/](http://riograndeguardian.com/author/(b)(6)/)  
It is likely that he may write about his experience at the meeting.

Photos

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)





(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)





(b) (5)

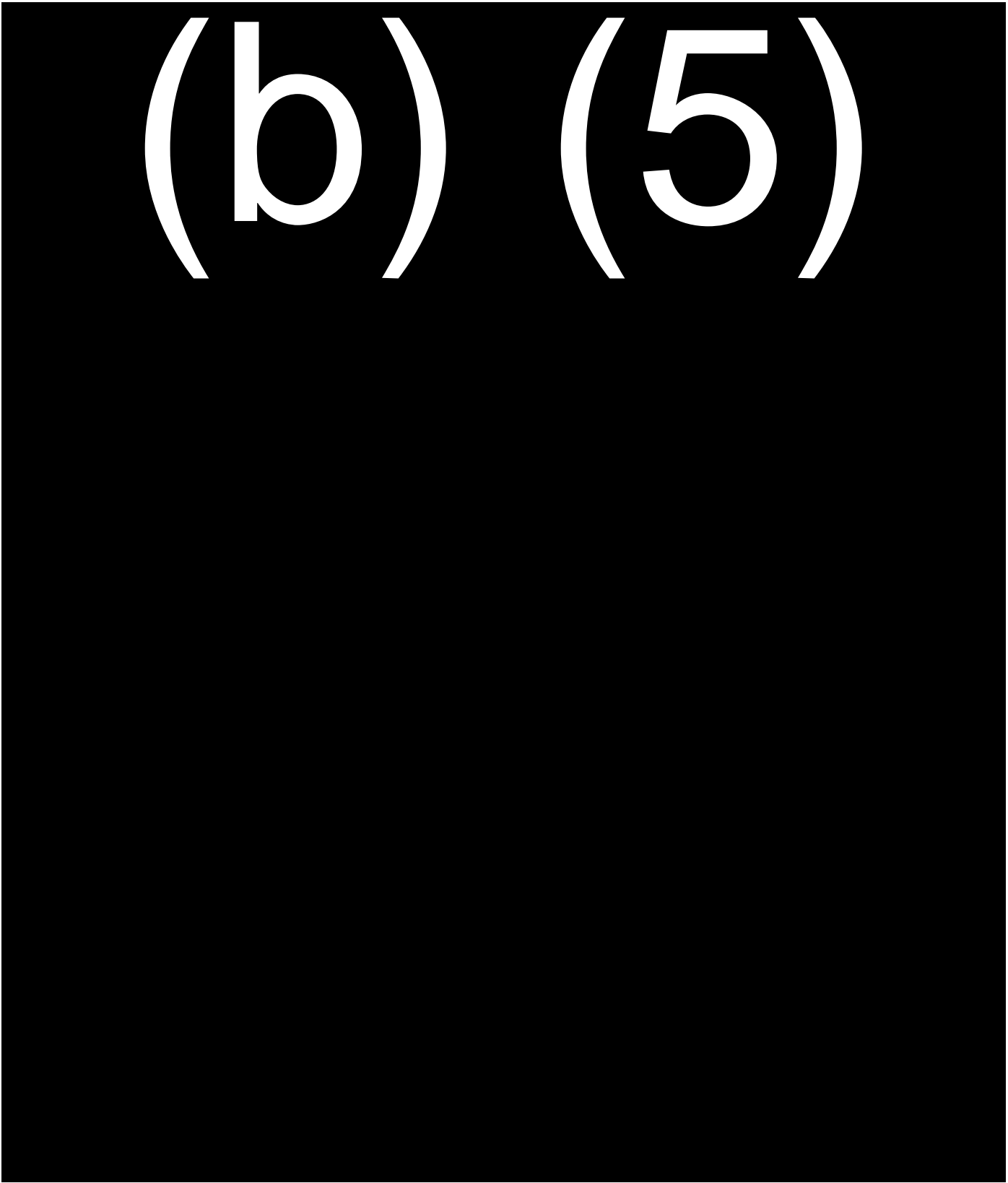
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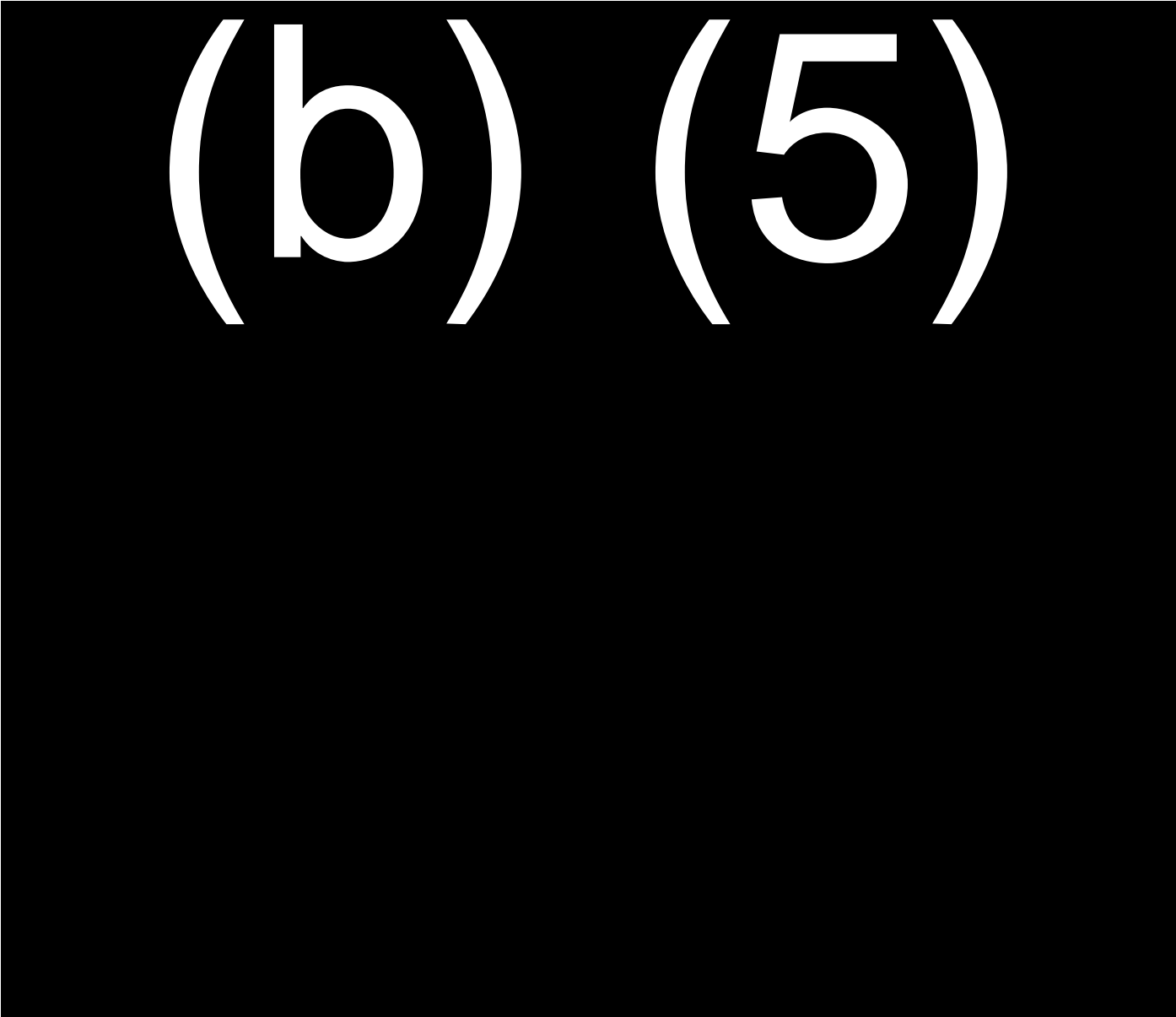
(b) (5)



(b) (5)



(b) (5)



**Department of the Interior**  
**Statement Concerning Real ID Act Waiver**  
**Invoked by Secretary John Kelly**  
**Department of Homeland Security**

On July 26, 2017, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), executed a waiver of certain laws, regulations and other legal requirements in order to ensure the expeditious construction of border security infrastructure along our Nation's southern border. Included in this waiver are environmental statutes and legal authorities associated with Department of the Interior (DOI) programs.

Since January 25<sup>th</sup>, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has been working to implement President Trump's Executive Order 13767 - also known as Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Improvements. These efforts include planning for the construction of new infrastructure, the replacement of current border infrastructure with new and more effective systems, and the hiring of new agents and officers into the CBP ranks.

DOI and its constituent bureaus have been working very closely with DHS to facilitate planning associated with the replacement of existing infrastructure and construction of new border security infrastructure in an environmentally responsible manner. The waiver is intended to cover border infrastructure projects located within the US Border Patrol's San Diego sector including the replacement of approximately 15 miles of primary fence and construction of wall prototype. Although the waiver eliminates CBP's requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), CBP remains committed to responsible environmental stewardship and will continue to perform all important surveys for biological and natural resources, wetlands, culturally significant sites, and environmentally sensitive areas. In addition, CBP will continue to coordinate and consult with federal, state, and local stakeholders to identify and measure the potential for any impacts to resources present and develop appropriate mitigation strategies.

Border security infrastructure will decrease the adverse environmental effects of illegal activities upon fragile plant and animal communities located within Interior lands. As such, DOI will continue to strongly execute its mission to protect and manage the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage by coordinating closely with CBP in its implementation of Executive Order 13767.